U.S. Attacks Terror Sites in Afghanistan and Sudan

'Not Just Retaliation, but Also an Act of Self-Defense'

By Joseph Fitchett

PARIS - The United States delivered powerful sorprise air attacks Thursday against six sites in Afghanistan and one in Sudan described by Washingtoo as key bases used by Islamic terrorists behind deadly explosions at U.S. emhassies in Kenya and Tanzania this month.

Sudanese state-controlled television, monitored in Cairo, reported that the country had sustained U.S. air

The hlows at these widely separated targets deep inside the territories of Muslim countries hostile to the United States were delivered by sea-launched cruise missiles, Peotagon officials said.

While official; said that extensive damage had been inflicted on what they called "terrorist-related facilities" in both couotries, detailed estimates of dam-

age and even details about what military options had been used were withheld in an initial news conference by Defense Secretary William Coheo in Washington. But officials said that there were no American cas-

The U.S. strikes targeted guerrilla bases in both Muslim nations as the nerve center of operations for Osama hin Laden, the wealthy Saudi extremist oamed hy U.S. officials as the mastermind of several overlapping anti-American terrorist networks.

Shortly after the attacks, the Taleban militia that controls Afghanistan said Mr. bin Laden had escaped

Describing the U.S. actions as "oot just retaliation for a specific act but also an act of self-defense" by the States to protect American lives around the world, Mr. Cohen said that both countries had harbored terrorists' planning and training facilities and them launch attacks, thereby making them

legitimate targets for U.S. military attacks. The operations, which will be seen as the boldest, firmest use of force ever by the Clinton administration, were directed against "a clear and imminent threat" to the United States, said General Hugh Shelton, chair-man of the joint chiefs of staff.

This sense of menace in official statements appeared intended to explain the timing of the U.S. decisioo in a way that pre-empted any suggestion that President Bill Clinton might bave ordered military action to shore up his domestic authority at a crincal

Weapons of mass destruction, including nerve gas, were being actively sought by Mr. hin Laden's organization, Geoeral Shelton said.

Chemical weapons were under development at a plant in Sudan, which was one of the targets of the U.S.

See TERROR, Page 12



'Canada Bars **Unilateral** Secession

Supreme Court Rules Quebec Must Negotiate Terms for Any Breakup

> By Steven Pearlstein Washington Post Service

TORONTO — Weighing in on Canada's longest running political dispute, the country's Supreme Court de-clared unanimonsly Thursday that the French-speaking province of Quebec does not have the unilateral right to

secede from the rest of Canada. At the same time, the nine justices said that if Quebec voters expressed a clear preference for secession, the Canadian constitution woold require the federal government in Ottawa and the remaining provinces to negotiate in good faith on the terms of a breakup.

The continued existence and operation of the Canadian constitutional order cannot remain unaffected by the unambiguous expression of a clear majority of Quebeckers that they no longer wish to remain in Canada," said the court, citing court precedent and the realities of international law.

The long-awaited decision was a leal victory for the governme: Minister Jean Chretien, which requested the advisory opinion in an effort to cool secessionist sentiment in a province that is home to one in four Canadians, including the prime minister himself.

Ouebec voters narrowly defeated a secession referendum in 1995, and the ruling party in the provincial govern-ment has vowed to hold another referendum, perhaps as early as next

Even if Quebec voters opt clearly for secession, however, the Supreme Court said Thursday, that would only begin a long and difficult process of amending

the country's basic governing charter.

Democracy, the count said Democracy, the court said, means more than simple majority rule." It noted that the requirements of democracy must be balanced with those of federalism and respect for minority interests. "Secession of a province under the constitution could not be achieved" without negotiation with 'other participants' in the Canadian confederation.

At a minimum, the court said that Such a process would require the acquiescence of the federal Parliament and those of seven of the country's 10 provinces — the normal requirements for amending the Canadian constitution. And the court held out the possibility that some of the terms of a secession agreement might require unanimous ap-

proval of the provinces. Both separatists and federalists quickly found reason for declaring viclory in the wake of the nearly 50-page opinion, which reflected the court's careful political balanciog act.

Mr. Chretien said that the court had well-served all Canadians by bringing clarity to certain fundamental rules and by dismissing the arguments of the Thatd-line secessionists. He said he hoped the court's opinion would be an occasion for Quebeckers to "put aside"

the secession question. In Quebec, Jacques Bressard, the province's combalive minister of intergovernmental affairs, bailed the opinion

See QUEBEC, Page 3

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President Bill Clinton after announcing the surprise air strikes Thursday from a school on Martha's Vineyard.

Anti-U.S. Plot Broken Up in Albania

Egyptian Terror Suspects Arrested, and Embassy Bomb Plans Seized

By John Kifner

TIRANA, Albania -- American intelligence operatives, directing the Albanian secret police in a series of lightning raids, appeared to have thwarted a bomb plot against the U.S. Embassy here and broken up a ring of Egyptian Islamic terrorists using this troubled Balkan nation's anarchy to set up a

Among the material seized in the

raids, which netted five alleged terrorists wanted in Egypt — includiog some facing death seotences — were plans for the bombing of the embassy in Tirana, according to Albanian security offi-

American officials, acting after the bombing of their embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, took the information seriously enough to destroy embassy communications equipment last week, one of the steps mandated wheo an embassy might be attacked by terror-

ists, an American security agent said. It was not immediately known when the raids in Tirana had occurred, but late last week the United States sent in about 200 Marines, 10 navy SEALS and a number of other plainclothes security men to evacuate dependents and nonessential personnel and guard the hand-ful remaining in the galed U.S. residential compound, a tiny slice of suburbia amid the hrutal peasant poverty here.

See ALBANIA, Page 12

Attacks Get Support, **Along With Questions**

Some Republicans Wonder About the Timing

By Brian Knowlton International Herald Tribun

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton's decision to order military strikes against targets in Sudan and Afghanistan drew strong endorsements from some key Republican legislators but was sharply questioned by others, who suggested that the timing made the attacks seem suspiciously like a diversion mounted by an embattled president.

"The United States did exactly the right thing." said the speaker of the House, Representative Newt Gingrich of Georgia. "We cannot allow a terrorist group to attack United States em-hassies and do nothing."

But other legislators did not wait even for Mr. Clinton's full public explanation of the attacks to suggest that he might be seeking to take people's minds off the Monica Lewinsky matter.

Senator Arlen Specter, Republican of Pennsylvania, said that the question of whether Mr. Clitton had a "diversionary motive" in ordering the military action was an "ohvious issue." Representative lke Skelton of Kan-

sas, one of the few Democrats to respond immediately to word of the attacks, dismissed the talk of a diversion nonsense.

motivated is absolutely wrong," said Mr. Skelton, who is the ranking Democrat on the House National Security Committee. While several average Americans, in-

terviewed on CNN, expressed support for the U.S. strikes, a number of others said it left them with unsenling doubts about the president's motives and an unpleasant sense of failing trust. Mr. Giogricb, the only legislator to

say he had been hriefed in advance of the attacks, called the strikes completely

"It's very important," he said on CNN, "that we sent the signal to coun-

tries like Sudan and Afghanistan that if you house a terrorist, you become a larget. We cannot afford to have people who think they can kill Americans without any consequences,"

Senator Jesse Helms, the North Carolina Republican who is chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, said that the U.S. attacks were "clearly designed to strike at the heart of a terrorist network that has the blood of American citizens on its hands and which was planning further attacks," Senator Orrin Hatch of Utah, a senior

Republican who frequently speaks for his party about the Lewinsky matter. said that he applauded Mr. Clinton's action. "Terrorism," he said, "is the No. I threat to Americans and American interest in the post-Cold War world."

Mr. Hatch, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, urged Mr. Clinton to go even further, however, saying: "I would urge the president that he conduct a campaign against terrorism rather than a momentary series of limited strikes. If that's all this is, then I will be more critical. The U.S. strike was also backed by

Mr. McCain, who is considered a possible Republican candidate for the presidency in 2000, tempered his support with searing criticism of Mr. Clinion's ing of foreign i "I think the president did the right

Senator John McCain of Arizona, But

thing." he said. during an appearance in Phoenix, "I think the majority of the American people will support him. Asked by a reporter whether Mr.

Clinton might have hoped to distract Americans attention from the Lewinsky case. Mr. McCain said, "I will not assume any other reason unless I have evidence to prove that."

He then listed a series of major foreign policy issues — the confrontation with Iraq over inspection of suspected weapons siles, serbacks to the Middle

See REACTION, Page 12

State Support in Asia's Stock Markets Raises Investors' Suspicions

By Thomas Fuller ional Herald Tribun

KUALA LUMPUR — East Asian stock markets continued to climb Thursday on the back of direct government huying, but many fund managers and analysis are beginning to say that the state-sponsored buying will leave long-term scars. Ultimately, they said, government purchases in

stock markets like Hong Kong's, which has long been seen as the region's bastion of free-market capitalism. create artificial price levels and make investors wary of the risk of future government activity, undermining the independence of the markets.

"I find it deeply disconcerting," said Bill Kaye, Malaysia said Thursday that Kuala Lumpur would managing partner of Asian Hedge Fund LP in ask investment funds run by the state to make Hong Kong. "It raises the risk profile of Hong

Kong. And it raises the cost of investing here." Some analysts say the government's direct pur-chases of equities contradicted the basic idea that a stock market should reflect the expectations of a company's performance.

The benchmark Malaysian stock index rose 2.2 percent Thursday. On Wednesday, it rose 8.8 percent in its higgest ooe-day rise in six months. In Hong Kong, stocks rose 1.57 percent Thursday, up 7.4 percent in three days. Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad of

purchases in the stock market. Dealers told Agence France-Presse on Thursday that the fund had "nibbled" in the afternoon session. But it was the unprecedented intervention in Hong

> one estimate, the Hong Kong government now holds S2 hillion worth of local stocks. Governments often intervene in currency markets, but direct huying of shares on stock ex-

changes is rare in developed countries.

Essentially, the government has tried to temporarily nationalize the Hong Kong index," said Mar-

Kong this week that received the most attention. By

shall Mays, chief strategist at Nikko Securities Co. "In the name of providing some protection or assurance for the market, it has hasically taken away some of the incentive for the market to cure

itself," he told the CNBC television network. Hoog Kong last week also issued a waiver — the first in its history — to China Telecom, allowing it to buy back shares beyond the level stipulated by securities rules. The move was reminiscent of waivers in Malaysia late last year that caused the stock market to tumble

Mr. Kaye said prices on the Hong Kong market

See ASIA, Page 17

Arctic Autopsy of the 1918 Flu Pandemic

Scientists Enlist Grave-Diggers in Search for Evidence in Medical Mystery

By John Noble Wilford New York Times Service LONGYEARBYEN, Norway

They start digging Friday morning, the five grave-diggers all the way from London. Actually, much of the time they will be harnmering through ice. Here in the islands of Spitsbergen in the high Arctic between mainland Norway and Greenland, the ground at depths of a meter (more than 3 feet) is permafrost. At about 2 meters, they should find the bodies in the mass grave encased in a

The cemetery is at the foot of a steep bill overlooking this small mining town and a glacier looming at the head of the valley. It is summer, the time of the midnight sun.

Over the mass grave a tent with a pecial air lock has been stretched and inflated. The tent is for privacy in this somber enterprise and prolection against anything possibly dangerous escaping into the outside air. Inside, the gotten Pandemic: The Influenza of

side, will go about their business of opening the resting place of seven young men who were buried here 80 years ago.

This is a critical moment in one of the

most amhitious efforts yet to solve an intractable medical mystery: What caused the influenza pandemic of 1918 and early 1919? Why was this particular contagion so virulent that it killed an estimated 20 million to 40 million people worldwide? The secret of one of the most lethal viruses the world has ever known may dwell in the lungs of these coal miners, who were its vic-

"Five years" work culminates in the next few weeks," Kirsty Duncan, a Canadian geographer who is directing the project, said as final preparations were under way. The professor specializes in medical geography and teaches at the universities of Wittdsor and Toronto, Inspired by reading "America's For-

diggers, with medical scientists at their 1918" by Alfred Crosby of the University of Texas at Austin, she began the dogged research that led scientists to the mass grave in the Longyearbyen cemetery. Mr. Crosby, a historian, wrote that this "demographic catastrophe" killed more people in such a short time than any other disease in the history of the world. "I was horrified when I found out we

didn't know what caused this disease. which killed many more people than died in battle in World War I." Ms.

From a journal kept hy the coal mining company here, she found the names seven men, aged 18 to 29, farmers and fishermen who had just arrived here to earn extra money at winter jobs in the mine. But they had contracted flu on the boat trip from the mainland and died in the first week of October 1918. The sight of their names on the six crosses and one headstone at the back of the

See FLU, Page 12

AGENDA

Grenade Kills Cambodian Bystander

New York	Thursday @ 4 P.M	previous close
DM	1.7989	1.7981
Yen	143.125	144.005
FF .	6.03	6.0265
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Books		Page 5.

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Pages 20-21.

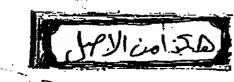
PHNOM PENH (Reulers) - One man was killed late Thursday when a grenade was thrown and shots were fired outside the Cambodian Interior Ministry, where the opposition politician Sam Rainsy was protesting alleged fraud in the election last month.

The dead man was a Cambodian driver for the Japanese news agency Kyodo. He was waiting outside the ministry when a car raced past and the grenade was thrown, witnesses said.

Britain to Toughen Anti-Terror Laws

Britain announced Thursday that it would toughen laws to fight terrorisis. matching draconian measures by the Republic of Ireland, following the car-bomb attack Saturday that killed 28

ople in Omagli, Northern Ireland. The new measures include widening government power to intem terrorism suspects without trial. Page 12.



Peasant Coca Growers Suspicious of Bogata's 'Marshall Plan'

By Diana Jean Schemo New York Times Service

AN JOSE DEL GUAVIARE, Colomhia — The optimism of a fresh start. The sweet talk of reconciliation. The promise of a respectable way to make a living instead of growing coca. Dagoberto P. has heard it all before. And this year, he is not

Dagoberto, who owns 40 hectares (100 acres) planted with coca, remembers "crop substitution" proposals that went by the names of "alternative development" and "crop substitution." They never materialized. And now the new president of Colombia, Andres Pas-trana, is calling for a "Marshall Plan" to bring the coca-growing hinterlands of Colombia into

"It wasn't crop substitution at all," Dagoberto recalled of an earlier administra-

tion's pledge. "It was forced furnigation."
There is still no highway from here to
Bogota, a 440-kilometer (275-mile) journey
that takes a truck eight days, so vegetables are

rotten by the time they reach market.

Mr. Pastrana's modernization plan is part of an ambitious array of ideas he has formulated to curtail drug trafficking and reclaim a nation reeling from decades of war.

With government coffers empty, the new administration would like to raise money by selling a new kind of bond. The money would hring electricity, water, roads and technical expertise to forgotteo rural areas where poverty and government indifference have allowed coca-growing and rebel movements to

Here in the coca-growing heartland, where the U.S.-backed war on drugs is fought with herhicides and belicopter gunships, coca growers remain skeptical. Any plan's first obstacle might well lie with the growers themselves, embittered by years of fumigation and confrootation with government authorities.

confrootation with government authorities.

"In one way or another, they 've been saying that for years, and we've been asking for it," said Antonio R., another coca grower and father of five. "But all we've ever had are expectatioos." Like other growers interviewed, he asked that his full oame not be published out of fear for his safety.

The Pastrana administration is asking for international help, and U.S. administration officials appear willing to listen. Peter Romero, acting assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, said Washington had "sev-

American affairs, said Washington had "several hundred million dollars on the table for Colombia." some of which could be available for alternative development.

What Colombia has to do is put together a Mr. Romero said on a recent visit strategy." Mr. Romero said on a constant bere. "We're just waiting to see that strategy.

r. Pastrana has also made a priority of oegotiating with rebels who protect coca growers. He acceded to their demands that government security forces temporarily withdraw from five municipalities in an area twice the size of El Salvador as a condition for beginning peace talks by early November.

The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia is believed to number 15,000 combatants. Ten times as many quiet snpporters provide logistic help.

The presideot vows that he will personally lead the talks with the insurgeots.

The rebels are suggesting they would be

willing to abandon their drug revenues, which some analysts estimate at \$100 million a year, as part of a peace agreement that would provide other ways for coca-growing peasants to make a living.

U.S. officials are skeptical about whether

the rebels will actually give up the coca rev-

"There'd have to be some powerful reward and punishmeot algorithm to make that hap-pen," General Barry McCaffrey, the White



Crop substitution schemes come and go in Colombia, but they must compete with the cocaine industry, which remains a steady and dependable customer.

House ano-drug chief, said just before Mr. Pastrana's inauguracon.

But Mr. Pastrana, who eluded his security guards to meet secretly with the guerrillas' top commander last month, seems willing to take the rebels at their word.

The potentially fatal stumbling block lies io the price for signing a peace accord and pledging to control the drug trade, This would

be a demand by the rebels for local autonomy and control over the government budget in their regions.

Although U.S. officials publicly contend they are interested in Colombia's civil conflict solely because of the drug trade, privately they admit they are also concerned about the cooflict spilling over Colombia's borders and causing regional instability. Officials in

Andres Pastrana, right, the new president of Colombia, says coca growers can find an alternative to raising the main ingredient in cocaine. He is in talks with rebels who help get the crops to market.

Bogota and Washington also balk at the notion of funding a rebel state within

"In the past, there hasn't been sincerity on the part of either side," said Alejandro Ovalles, a restaurant owner who runs a local business association.
"War is a business in any part of the world," he said. "There's lots of mis-

trust on all sides. Nevertheless people here say that the insurgents are the only actors with the necessary presence, muscle and local respect to put a rapid end to coca growing. They say that at one time the rebels banned commercial fishing at a local river that was being rapidly depleted, and fishermen obeyed. Another time, the insurgents forbade coca growers to cut down trees in a part of the rain forest, and again nobody dared to defy

"It's about educating people," the local Roman Catholic parish priest, the Reverend Jorge Vargas, said. "But it's based in fear."

Though their lives are intimately af-fected by U.S. policies, the growers complained of feeling invisible to decisionmakers in Washington

When Geoeral McCaffrey visited the antinarcotics base here recently, they said, the town became "militarized" and people stayed shut in their homes.

"We're not the kind of people you like to deal with, but-we're human beings," Antonio

And though Washington this year doubled the pace of chemical furnigation to kill coca crops, the governor of Guaviare, Hernando Gonzalez Villarnizar, does not expect results.

"After seven years of funigating, there's more coca than ever," be said.

Growers say they would be eager to give up coca growing if they could earn a livelihood elsewhere

Since many of them started growing and processing coca 15 years ago, the cost of processing coca has soared, while the prices

paid for cocaine have stayed the same. It takes 220 liters (55 gallons) of gasoline to process 1 kilogram (2.2 pounds) of cocaine, which Dagoberto said earns a grower \$1,000. Upon hearing that a gram of cocaine sells for \$100 by the time it reaches New York, he looked at the floor and shook his head.

he state secretary of culture, Pedro Arenas, said that the rain forest could not sustain the estimated 20,000 growers living in it.

The growers, many of whom came here to escape violeoce and hopelessness in other parts of Colombia, should be sent back home and given land, he said.
"The Marshall Plan here would be called

agrarian reform," Mr. Arenas said. The jungle is scarred, burned and polluted with the astonishing quantities gasoline and other materials involved in the 240.000 kilograms of coca paste prodoced in Guaviare each

"The white man," Dagoberto said, "doesn't know how to live in the jungle."

In Vancouver, Tolerance of Drugs Draws Addicts - and Ire

By Anthony DePalma New York Times Service

ANCOUVER, British Columbia -Fame easily finds a place like this, with its climate so embracing, its surroundings so inspiring and its population leavened so liberally with artists and new immigrants.

Yet, as a fortune cookie io one of Vancouver's countless Chinese restaurants might read, fame is fleeting, and what is fahulous one day can turn foul the oext.

Vancouver is quickly gaining a reputatioo as a haven for illicit drugs and those who use them from the brazen addicts shooting up and huying heroin and cocaine around the intersection of Hastings and Main Street to the highpoteocy marijuana that is raised, sold and openly smoked on streets and in cafes.

"I heard that you could smoke and nobody bothered you," said Adam, a lanky 19-yearold from Seanle who came with two friends for an overnight trip. They easily bought marijuana on the street and then - somewhat - entered the Cannahis Cafe, a marijuana mecca for many Americans on the West Coast.

While ooe friend picked at a green salad mixed with a few hemp seeds, Adam took out a joint and, somewhat uneasily, lit it. Soon be relaxed. "It's a good environment, 'cause you can't smoke cigarettes, you can only smoke marijuana," he said. "You don't have the

smoky bar atmosphere, just a pleasant smell." As other customers casually lit up their joints, the smell of marijuana was as inescapable as popcorn at a movie theater.

"Vancouver is the most tolerant spot in

Canada wheo it comes to different lifestyles and cultures," said Sister Icee, a 38-year-old Toronto woman once known as Sbelley Fran-cis who has owned the café and adjacent Hemp BC store since April.

Although the police have raided it three

times (ooce since she took over and twice last year under a differeotowner) the Canoahis Cafe still celebrates marijuana. On

the wall is a painting of the Virgin of Guadaloupe, Mexico's patron saint, who stands serenely in her starred gown, surrounded by tall marijuana stalks. The menu features

pasta with hemp pesto, salads with hemp dress-ing and quesadillas made with hemp tortillas. "There's oo harm in it," said Sister Icee. Lighting an oversized, filtered joint, she said she lived in the West Indies for most of the 1980s and joined the Rastafarian sect, which gave her her name and introduced her to marijuana, "the weed of wisdom."

"Marijuana is a plant," she said. "You can't prosecute people for smoking flowers. It shouldn't be regulated any more than parsley For Vancouver officials, the Cannabis Cafe

is a public relations nightmare, "We doo't like the reputation that things like that bring to the city," said Bruce Cham-bers, chief constable of the Vancouver Police

After the last raid in April, the police charged Sister Icee with selling drug paraphernalia in the Hemp BC store. On a recent visit, the store carried shoes, shirts and

snowboards, all made with hemp, along with pipes, boogs and cigarette rolling papers. Now the city intends to deny Sister Icee the licenses she needs to run the store and cafe, working through the city council, not the

'Vancouver has been called "They're going to Vansterdam, and we're not proud be toast by Septem-ber, said Philip of it,' a city police officer said.

Owen, mayor of Vancouver. "Vanconver has been called Vansterdam, and we're not proud of it." said Ken Doran, an

inspector with the police department's drug Police have raided and shot down 82 hydroponic marijuana growing operations this year, confiscating \$14 million worth of the

drug.

The growers use basements, artics, sometimes entire houses to pur out high-yield crops,

Constable Chambers said. Police analysts say the marijuana is grown under such favorable conditions that it contains 12 times the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol - or THC, the chemical compound that gives

marijuana its punch - than was common just a

few years ago.

Beyond marijuana, Vancouver estimates that there are as many as 15,000 intravenous drug users in British Columbia, most of them in

The area around Hastings and Main is filled with addicts, many drawn by the cheap rooms or an AIDS-control program that gives out about 2.5 million free needles a year.

about 2.5 million free needles a year.

Drugs killed a record 201 people in the first half of 1998, according to the British Columbia coroner, the majority of them in Vancouver. Then a medical report indicated a vast need for reatment programs and proposed that hard-core addicts be given free heroin to keep them from robbing to support their babits, a position that Constable Chambers conditionally sup-

ported.
- The city liself is divided and unsure of what to do next. Mr. Owen, the mayor, and Constable Chambers say that prosecutors and jodges are too soft on people convicted of drug

charges.

"People like to point to judges because we're easy targets," 'said Robert Merzger, chief judge of the provincial court. "But this seems to be a social and political problem."

Libby Davies, the member of Parliament who represents the area around Hastings and Main, has called for more oational funds to cope with Vancouver's drug epidemic. She supports not only providing free heroin to hard-core addicts, hut also clinics where they can safely inject.

Ms. Davies is not concerned that such programs, already tried in Europe, might cement Vancouver's reputation as the Amsterdam of North America.

"The situation at Hastings and Main couldn't get worse," she said. "This is oot about the city's reputatioo. It's about saving

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TRAVEL UPDATE

Northwest Quickly Kills Fare Rise MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Northwest Airlines has rescinded a rate increase that it imposed after refusing to match higher prices by competitors.

A spokesman, Joo Austin, said that the reversal was not accide tal but that he bad no other comment about wby Northwest rescinded the 4 percent increase of advance-purchase and sale fares after only two days.

"I think we're playing guess the tare, said terry Trippler, editor of The Airfare Report. "I've got to admit, I'm

buffaloed. It makes you think that maybe somebody ac-

cidentally sat on the wrong button." The Wednesday reversal was a surprise, and other airlines

Storm Watch Posted in Caribbean

did not immediately lower their fares.

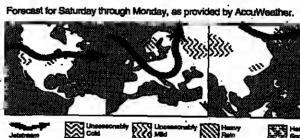
MIAMI (Reuters) - Forecasters put the U.S. and British Virgin Islands under a tropical storm watch Thursday as a powerful weather system moved across the Atlantic toward the Caribbean.

The watch, alerding residents to possible tropical storm conditions within 36 hours, also was in effect for the northern Leeward Islands of Antigua, Barbuda, Anguilla, St. Martin, Saba and St. Eustatius as the Atlantic hurricane season's second tropical depression gained speed.

It was expected to reach tropical storm strength later Thursday and could be a hurricane by the weekend.

All Tel Aviv beaches were ordered closed to the public Thursday after a main waste pipeline hroke and 200,000 cubic meters (7 million cubic feet) of sewage spilled into the

WEATHER



North America . Europe North America.

Los Angeles, Phoenix and Windy and cool across much of the Southwest will single and northern be dry and very hot with Prance Fridey; milder Saturday, then warmer blacking sunsitine, but partly under and Sunday; it may suntity and quite comfortation in Portland and Saturday, what will be dry and very warm the Steamy in New York and Cool. Moetly surry and thunderstorm. Thundersom the Southwest Sunday, such day, Southwest Saturday, then stormy and thunderstorm. Thundersom from Spain to tally as those acch day. Southwest Southwest Saturday, and eastern Korea and streets with heavy rein are and Greets. Windy, cool across southwestern than and steamy in Southwest Asia.

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THE AMERICAS

In Rural Heartland, Constituents Take a Tougher Line on Clinton Scandal

By Lizette Alvarez New York Times Service

LEOTI, Kansas — Business talk came first in this tiny rural farm town that people here call the "middle of Middle America.

There were cumbersome export restrictions to discuss and the oeed for trains to hustle out wheat and other

But just as their congressman, Rep-resentative Jerry Moran, a Republican, got ready to wrap things up at the town hall meeting, Dorothea Appl, chimed in: 'Can I ask what your opinions is of our

Mrs. Appl, a 65-year-old retired farmer's wife, said sheepishly. "Bot if he did lie, there has to be some form of pun-

As Mr. Moran traveled Wednesday across five counties in the southwestern part of Kansas, conducting one town meeting after the next, something be does regularly, it was clear that some-thing had changed in the previous two

Last week, nobody in this Republican stronghold had paid any mind, at least publicly at the town meetings, to Presdent Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky. But two days after Mr. Clinton admitted to an improper relationship with Ms. Lewinsky, it was being mentioned and discussed at just about every stop the congressman made in this wheat and corn belt district.

The consensus here, mostly among Republicans, was that Mr. Clinton's speech Monday served not to redeem the president, but to sully him further. Mothers said they worried that the president had sent out the wrong message to their children. Farmers in overalls fretted about his effectiveness as a

world leader in the midst of this crisis. Women talked about plummeting values and men about America's integrity. The questions they posed to their congressman amounted to this: Is this

what we want our country to stand for?
In a place where a disk jockey Wednesday urged parents to pray for their children as they return to school, residents here reacted without the customary shrill partisanship that often surrounds the issue on television. They leveled few angry words at the president personally, even as some said they believed that Mr. Clinton should resign. Rather, the concerns centered on how

his actions would burt America and Americans, as they put it. 'People out there are laughing at

us," said Cinda Medina, a 38-year-old mother of two who returned to Kansas to raise her children. "I don't think a citizen has pride in America anymore. Now, every time you turn on the television there is a comedian joking about the president.

Larry Holiman, 56, who works in the courts, said he was stumped about how to explain Mr. Clinton's behavior to children. "You tell kids, 'You don't lie, you don't cheat,' and then be turns around and does it," he said. "When you take the highest job in the land, you have to have some morality.

Others said they were disturbed by polls that show most people simply want the story to disappear. It's too late for that oow, they said. "I don't think it ought to go away," said Pam Sourk, 50.
"I think it onght to be very important. It onght to be investigated."

Without rancor or Republican bravado, Mr. Moran mirrored his constituents' concerns. He bemoaned the repercussions the president's actions would have on public servants, an already maligned bunch with considerable image problems. And he pre-dicted that Congress, while tempted to dodge the politically thomy matter, would have to deal with it seriously and

without political gamesmanship. "It is important for us to be able to believe our elected officials," Mr. Mor-an said at nne town hall meeting, his voice growing hoarser as the day wore on. "Truth and integrity matter."

'This is not politics," he added. This is about governing a nation. This is not about polls. This is about wbat makes our country different from other nations. We have to preserve that sense that we are unique.

A few Democrats came up to him after the town meetings, mostly to say they felt the Lewinsky story was tire some and the charges ludicrous.

"Is there anything in the constitution about sex?" asked Charles Bosley, a farmer, who unted that most of those doing the criticizing were Republicans. By day's end, as Mr. Moran headed back to his botel after a full day on his listening tour," as be calls it, it was clear that the president had stirred people up in this part of the country. The dribs and drabs of anxiety over Mr. Clinton that began to bubble in January. when the story first broke, had swelled into profound disappointment, at least

"I just feel bad for the country," said Geneva Hineman, 76, as Mr. Moran prepared to leave a senior citizens center in Dighton. 'It has just burt everything.'

A Murder That Mississippi Can't Forget

After 4 Hung Juries, Klansman Faces Accusers Again Over 1966 Firebomb

By Rick Bragg New York Times Service

HATTIESBURG, Mississippi - In the vernacular of the White Knights of the Ko Klux Klan of Mississippi in the violent 1960s, a "No. 1" was a cross burning, and a "No. 2," a whipping. A "No. 3" was a firebombing, and "No. 4." the most severe punishment of all, was killing. Only the highest-ranking Klansmen could order a No. 3 and No. 4, said Billy Roy Pitts, a foot soldier in the

White Knights in the winter of 1965-66. 'Sam Bowers was the only man who could order a No. 3 and No. 4 in the White Knights in the state of Mississippi." Mr. Pitts testified bere Wed-

nesday in Mr. Bowers's murder trial. Mr. Bowers, a 73-year-old former Klan leader, is being tried for the fifth time for ordering the death of Vernon Dahmer, a civil rights leader killed by the firebombing of his home on Jan. 10,

Mr. Pitts, now 54 and serving time for his part in the killing, told the jury that he gathered with other Klansmen that winter in a farmhouse near Laurel, Mississippi, for a special meeting — special because Mr. Bowers, the Imperial Wizard who led the Mississippi White Knights, had come to see them in per-

son, to order Mr. Dahmer's death.
Mr. Pitts testified that Mr. Bowers ordered the murder of Mr. Dahmer be-cause he had worked to register blacks to vote in Forrest County.

Mr. Pitts said Mr. Bowers was visibly angry at the meeting because the Forrest County Klan had been lenient, doing nothing to silence Mr. Dahmer, a respected merchant, farmer and local NAACP official who offered his small store in the Kelly Settlement community outside Hattiesburg as a place where blacks could pay their poll tax.

Mr. Pitts said Mr. Bowers, a busi-nessman in Laurel, later told him: 'Don't worry. No jury in the state of Mississippi is going to coovict a white man for killing" someone hlack.

Though the information coming out of this trial seems new in 1998, it is Thardly so. Mr. Bowers has been on trial in the Dahmer murder four times before, always walking free after deadlocked juries of white males. He did serve time - six years in connection with one of the killings of the three civil rights workers in Neshoba County in 1964 but no prosecutor has ever successfully linked him to Mr. Dahmer's murder.

As Mr. Bowers sat in the courtroom in his off-white suit, seeming uninterested, another former Klansman, T. Webber Rogers, testified bow angry a younger version of the defendant had

been on a winter night years before. "He wanted to know why that job down south hadn't been done," said Mr. Rogers. "He wanted it done, and he wanted it done right. He said it should have been done two weeks ago."

Mr. Rogers said he and other Klansmen took part in what Mr. Bowers called a "dry run," piling into cars and driving past the Dahmer house. Mr. Bowers is not accused of being at the scene. Mr. Rogers said he also did oot take part in the actual killing.

But Mr. Pitts admitted to being there.

He told a story he has told before, in trials that led to the convictions of four other men in Mr. Dahmer's murder, of bow eight men in two cars, the trunks loaded with shotguns and 12 gallons of gasoline, rumbled toward the Dahmer

He said the men stopped at a hlack cemetery near there and that one of the Klansmen urinated on a grave, followed by others.

He said Mr. Bowers had sent him along as a guard, armed with a pistol, to watch over the others. But as Mr. Dahmer, his body on fire, fired a shotgun over and over from a window to give his wife and children time to escape, Mr. Pitts said he dropped the pistol, un-

He said he could bear Mr. Dahmer calling from inside the house. His lungs seared by the flames, Mr. Dahmer died in a hospital 12 hours later.

"A man's life was taken and I was part of it," Mr. Pitts said. "It's something I can't get out of my mind. I wish to God I had never been a part of it."

After serving a short federal sentence for his part in the killing, Mr. Pitts was supposed to serve a life sentence in Mississippi state prison. But, probably because he cooperated in the investigation, he never actually did time in state prison. Mr. Pitts said he was told by anthorities he did not have to, but he was

never officially pardoned.

In January, The Jackson Clarion-Ledger reported that fact, and Mr. Pitts is now serving that sentence.

Mr. Bowers's lawyer, Buckley, who was indicted himself in the Dahmer case three decades ago but later cleared of all charges, has argued that his client is the victim of a federal

He asked Mr. Pitts if the federal govemment gave him money for his girlfriend in the 1960s. Mr. Pitts was mar-

Mr. Pitts said federal investigators did give him about \$8,000 over time informants are often paid money - but that mooey went to his wife and chil-



Billy Roy Pitts, a former member of the Ku Klux Klan now in prison for his role in the 1966 murder of Vernon Dahmer, entering court to testify that the killing was ordered by a former Klan leader, Sam Bowers.

QUEBEC: Secession Restraint

Continued from Page 1

for its reaffirmation of the right of all

people to self-determination. The decision had been heralded as the most important ever issued by the court, which maintains a much lower profile in the Canadian scheme of government than the U.S. Supreme Court.

"What the court said today is that secession is possible, but it will have to be accomplished through a long and difficult negotiation process," said Christopher Manfredi, a constitutional scholar at McGill University in

Montreal.
"It's a very Canadian compromise," added Monique Jerome-Forget, president of the Institute for Research on Public Policy, a Montreal organization that has been trying to forge, a compromise on the Quebec separatist issue. The court said that neither side can

The court itself made clear that it was rejecting "two absolutist propositions" namely, that provinces have an absolute right to secede or they have no right to secede. But even in declaring that the Quebec question would have to be resolved as a political rather than a legal matter, the judges conceded that they were leaving a number of key questions unanswered.

These include a studied vagueness on exactly what would constitute a "clear majority on a clear question" hy Quebec voters in some future secession referendum. While separatist politicians have long argued that a simple majority vote would suffice, the court suggested that some deference might be required to the province's native populations.

Even if Quebec voters were to vote clearly for secession and trigger negotiation with the rest of Canada, the court did not say what would happen if the negotiations reached an impasse, as

they have repeatedly in the past.
We need not speculate bere as to what would then transpire," the court

Boston Paper Forces Columnist Out Over Fishy Story

By Howard Kurtz and Pamela Ferdinand Washington Post Service

BOSTON - Mike Barnicle, the Boston Globe columnist who was suspended early this month, then asked to resign, then reinstated, was forced to quit after his editors could not substantiate a 1995 column about two children hospitalized with cancer.

The Globe acted Wednesday after Kenneth Tomlinson, a retired editor of the Reader's Digest and a former director of the Voice of America, alerted the paper to the column, which Mr. Tomlinsoo had wanted to reprint until he found that his fact-checkers could oot confirm the existence of the children. Mr. Tomlinson, the father of a child

who had cancer, also provided a copy to The Washington Post, saying doubts about its authenticity had long nagged The editor of the Globe, Matthew

Storin, said: "Basically, this was a sufficient violation of journalistic ethics to merit ending his career here. In this the punishment did fit the

Mr. Barnicle, who is 54, said in a statement to the Boston television station WCVB, where he also works as a commentator, that his resignation was

"the best thing for the paper."

Mr. Tomlinson said that he called Mr.

Storin after deciding to write about the
1995 column for the Weekly Standard, a conservative magazine published in "It always remained with me," he

said. "Rarely in my career at the Reader's Digest have I seen a piece of work so fabricated, and it was a piece about a kid dying of cancer. I could never read Barnicle with the same attitude." Mr. Barnicle's removal also came as Dan Kennedy, a reporter for the weekly

Bostoo Phoenix, was preparing to pub-lish a story in which he charged that the columnist "clearly borrowed heavily lifting exact quotes, complete with idiosyncratic spelling — from A.J. Lieb-ling's 1961 biography of Louisiana political legend Earl Long."

Mr. Storin said that the Barnicle column, published in 1986, "did oot use similar language, but the anecdotes and quotes were identical."

The Globe newsroom, which had been deeply divided over Mr. Barnicle's reinstatement, cheered when Mr. Storin announced Mr. Barnicle's resignation late in the afternoon.
In the 1995 column, Mr. Barnicle told of a family whose 9-year-old son was at Children's Hospital bere, being treated

for cancer. The boy, who was white, became friends with an African-American child in the hospital. After the other child died, the white child's parents gave the African-American child's family \$10,000, according to the column. Mr. Tomlinsoo's fact-cbecker said in

a memo that Mr. Barnicle refused to provide any information about the fam-

Away From Politics

a 15-year federal prison seotence for

setting several fires last year on the roof

of building in Bozeman, Montana, that

housed a family-planning clinic and the

office of the only physician in the city who performed abortions. (AP)

A Roman Catholic school does not

have to admit a 14-year-old who says

her Buddhist beliefs prevent her from

receiving immunizations, a Superior

Court judge in New Brunswick, New

• A pilot managed to glide his

An anti-ahortion activist received

ily, which was not oamed, and that Children's Hospital was unable to verify the account. Walter Robinson, an assistant man-

aging editor at the Globe, said: "We were concerned enough by what we had beeo told by Mr. Tomlinson that we wanted to assure ourselves that the column was accurate, that the sources existed." Mr. Robinsoo said Mr. Barnicle told

him that he heard about the children at a restaurant-bar from a nurse who worked at another hospital and had treated the African-American hoy. But Mr. Barnicle did not remember the nurse's name and failed to produce any substantiation, such as the name of a friend who, he said, had accompanied him and met the nurse. Mr. Barnicle also acknowledged that he had never spoken to either set of parents described in the

article, according to Mr. Robinson. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health found oo evidence that a 9-year-old African-American hoy died of cancer in the state between 1993 and 1995, Mr. Robinson said.

single-engine airplane about two miles

to a safe landing after its propeller fell

off near Downtown Airport in Wausau,

Wisconsin. No one was injured. (AP)

• The Los Angeles Police Depart-

ment says it has completed most of the

reforms ordered by a blue-ribbon panel

that found brutality and racism

throughout the force, and will carry out

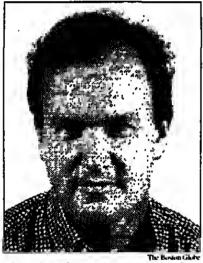
all of them by the end of the year. (AP)

robbery of armored car company's vault

in Charlotte, North Carolina, pleaded

guilty to money-laundering.

Two people accused in a \$17 million



Mike Barnicle, who was forced to resign as a Boston Globe columnist.

The chairman of the Globe, William Taylor, asked for Mr. Barnicle's resignation in a phone call Wednesday af-ternoon. Mr. Storin said that when he confronted Mr. Barnicle, "even the story be told in trying to prove it wasn't good in itself. He admitted right up front that he oever talked to the parents. This goes to the core question about bow Barnicle was treated over the years." This sort of checking "should bave been done earlier," Mr. Storin said.

Mr. Barnicle came under heightened scrutiny after the Globe accepted the resignation of Patricia Smith, an African-American columnist who acknowledged fabricating parts of four

columns. Critics inside and outside the paper questioned wby Ms. Smith had been punished when Mr. Barnicle had been accused of both fahrication and plagiarism over the years.



Welfare Reform Cuts Caseloads In Inner Cities, Data Indicate

By Judith Havemann Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Independent researchers have found the first solid evidence that welfare reform is beginning to work in the nation's largest cities, federal officials announced.

While the welfare rolls have declined by nearly 4 million individuals since President Bill Clinton signed dra-matic overhaul legislation two years ago this Saturday. the biggest drops have occurred in rural states and suburban communities.

home to more welfare recipients than 4g of the 50 states, recipients who were subject in the requirements of reform were far more successful at getting jobs and made significantly more money than ecipients who were not, according to the Manpower Research Demonstration Corp., a coted New York research group.

43 percent of poor families aged recipients are clustered.

who were required to participate in the city's new welfare reform program got jobs, while only 32 percent of families randomly selected to remain in the traditional welfare program did. This represents an increase of one-third over the old welfare program.

The typical welfare family subject to the reform initiatives earned \$1,286 in the first six months of the program, while "control group" families earned \$879, a difference of 46 percent. The study covered a period from 1996 to Up to oow, many of the

In Los Angeles, bowever, early results from welfare reform have been attributed to the robust economy and to "creaming" - the tendency for the most able and welleducated recipients to leave the rolls oo their own and get jobs without much state intervention.

But Los Angeles provides the first hard evidence that welfare reform is beginning to touch the inner city, where The researchers found that many of the most disadvant-

ACROSS 27 Share leave? 29 It may be on a 1 Bygone title 30 "Night Watch"

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O New York Times/Edited by Will Short.

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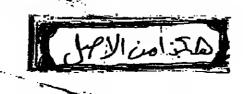


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The Fight Goes On /'An Opportunity Lost'

Anger Reverberates From Clinton Supporters: He 'Blew It' in TV Speech

By Dan Balz Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton's speech on the Monica Lewinsky crisis is increasingly seen by Democrats as a political failure, and it bas unleashed a torrent of anger among some of the president's most loyal supporters and created problems oo one at

By Kevin Sack

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — In his six years in

Congress, Representative Paul McHale

developed a reputation as a straight-

shooting former marine who allows himself the occasinnal indulgence of a

dramaoc gesture.
On Tuesday, the Democrat from

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, was more

dramaoc than usual when he became the

first, and only, member of Congress

from his party to call for President Bill

Clinton to resign or face impeachment.

office, which is decorated with a gleam-

ing saber and other mementos from his

for political effect in the past, like his call

lying under oath.

reluctantly after concluding that it would set an "awful precedent" to allow a His district of

and was lost.

The list of problems includes an emboldened Republican Party determined to see the investigation through to the

Rogue Democrat Defends His Stance

by a third to make debate more mean-ingful.

Some Democrats said privately Wed-

nesday that Mr. McHale's comments

may have been inflnenced by disap-

pointment that he was not the Clinton

administration's choice to become sec-

retary of the navy, a charge that Mr.

speaks with credibility because he sup-

ported Mr. Clinton enthusiastically in both the 1992 and 1996 elections and

then voted to support Mr. Clinton's po-

sitions about 75 percent of the time in the

His district office in Bethlehem is

But as a critic of the president, he also

McHale vehemently denied.

gressional Quarterly.

In an interview Wednesday in his House, according to ratings by Con-

service in the Marine Corps, Mr. Mr. Clinton came three years ago when McHale explained that he took his stand he opposed the deployment of U.S.

public official to remain in office after festooned with photographs of the pres-

Because he is retiring this year after three terms in the House, Mr. McHale has a degree of political liberty not enjoyed by incumbents running for reelection. He has taken quixotic stands for political effect in the page 12 to 12 to

to reduce the number of House members genuine love of country, but who pos- accurate."

closure in some reasonable time frame, credibility has been compromised for the opportunity was there Monday night battles ahead and the threat of further week — Democrats will quickly rally problems from the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, whose investigation is oow in its final stages.

Some Democrais on Wednesday attributed part of the underwhelming puband demoralized by a Clinton perfor- lic response from Capitol Hill to the fact for the House to take no action against mance that fell far short of expectations; that most lawmakers are on vacation or the president, if for no other reason than "It's not only opportunity lost, it's editorial opinion from newspapers additional troobles gained," a former across the country that has been ex-

sesses some tragic and equally large flaws." Mr. McHale, a lawyer who is

regarded as a political centrist, said that

Mr. Clinton's admitted "inappropriate"

relacionship with Monica Lewinsky, a

former White House intern, was "pred-

atory and repugnant."

But he said his call for the president's

resignation was based on legal concerns,

justice in our courts, it is essential that

witnesses feel a personal profound obligation to tell the truth," he said. "Oth-

erwise we might as well return to litigation by combat. I think the president

breached that responsibility and if he is

once again violate a judicial oath to tell

Clinton denied under oath that he had

In a deposition taken in January, Mr.

'If we are to successfully pursue

not moral ones.

the truth."

ulf War.

lationship to a federal grand jury on
Monday, although he maintained that his

president is a man of enormous talent, previous testimony had been "legally

administration official said. "If one of your goals has to be to try to bring this to closure in some responsible size from the said, will be testing opinion at borne to condemn it," one Democratic they said, will be testing opinion at borne to condemn it, one Democratic strategist said.

They also predicted that, unless Mr. Starr's report provides convincing evidence of obstruction of justice by the president, that many lawmakers will call elections. "If it's about sex, they're free months and are not happy about it."

said the principal reason Democrats have reacted the way they have is that they have been burned before by Mr. Clinton and worry about what lies ahead. "They're oot sure everything is out," he They don't believe there's been

this purging process. They're afraid." A congressional Democrat said, "Members were lied to for seven



Mr. McHale pondering the Clinton situation in his Washington office.

other Democrats were likely to join him precisely my arguments with great pasin his criocism of Mr. Clinton. But most sion," he said. "We would not have Democrats, he said, would agree with his accepted this from Richard Nixon." Democrats, he said, would agree with his had a sexual relacionship with Ms. Lewinsky. But he acknowledged such a re-

I think that if a Republican president

Mr. McHale acknowledged that few Democratic cancus would be voicing

Mr. McHale said he was worried that public disgust over the Clinton scandal had engaged in the very type of mis-conduct in which President Clinton ap-parently engaged, members of the would depress voter turnout in the fall, would depress voter turnout in the fall, increasing the chances that a Republican would win in his 15th District. would depress voter turnout in the fall,

His only significant policy feud with not held accountable we establish a precedent that may encourage some future president, someone more inclined to ahuse power than President Clinton, to

Gore Linked to Illegal-Fund Memo Notes Said to Report Talk on Diverting Party Money to Campaign

By David Johnston
New York Times Service

November 1995 White House memor- funds for the campaign. andum with hand-written ootations that

campaign officials discussed bow some of the large contributions being raised by officials said. the vice president for use only for general campaign purposes by the Demo- comment oo the issue Wednesday. cratic Party would be diverted to accounts to directly finance the Clinton-Gore re-election effort, the officials

The sources would not provide the notations on the memorandum, which they said had been written by an unidentified senior aide to the vice president. The officials said that the notes were not conclusive evidence of what the vice president knew about fund-raising activities and they did not provide details of the discussion between Mr. Gore and

others at the meeting.

Attorney General Janet Reno has said ecutor. that telephone solicitations for hard

nance laws and could be illegal.

of wrongdoing on the issue of the phone clusions on a review of the massive array WASHINGTON - Justice Depart- calls, based on what she said was the of evidence collected during the Justice ment investigators have obtained a absence of evidence that be had raised Department's criminal grand jury in-

The issue of the vice president's fundton's re-eleccoo campaign, according to cent weeks, after Ms. Reno decided to an independent counsel. reconsider whether to seek the appoint-Mr. Clinton's re-election campaign, the

A spokesman for Mr. Gore declined to

At the Jusoce Department, the officials said Anomey General Reno's advisers were divided about the significance of the notations on the Gore issue to the 90-day review. memo. Some said they doubted that the memo - by itself - would lead to the are said by officials to be painfully appointment of an independent pros- labored, even by her slow standards.

But the document, along with a long confidential report sent to Ms. Reno in late July hy the former head of her campaign finance unit, has re-energized the poses. Instice Department debate about referring the case to an independent pros-

were subject to federal campaign fi- prosecutorial joh in San Diego, urged chairman.

Ms. Reno to send the case to an in-She absolved Mr. Gore in December dependent prosecutor. He based his con-

At the beginning of the month, Ms. Reno opened a formal 30-day review of appear to contradict Vice Presideot Al raising telephooe calls is significant beGore's account of his fund-raising cause it has emerged as a focal point of Mr. Gore's phone calls, the first step phooe calls during President Bill Clin- debate at the Justice Department in re- toward deciding again whether to seek

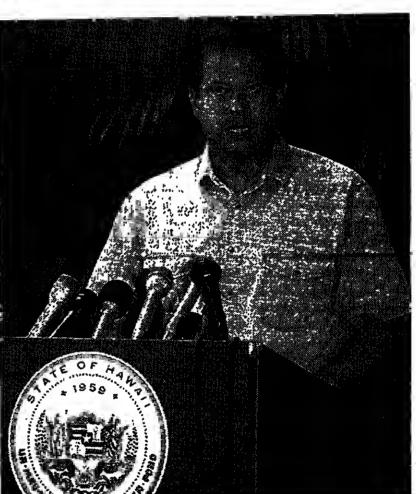
Under the statute, Ms. Reno has until The notations indicate that at a meet- ment of an independent prosecutor to the end of the month to extend the ining Nov. 21, 1995, Mr. Gore and several investigate fund-raising abuses during vestigation by ordering a 90-day preliminary inquiry into the phone calls. After that investigation, Ms. Reno must decide whether to seek an independent

> But so far, the officials said, the attomey general has been unable to decide whether to advance the Gore phone call

Ms. Reno's efforts to reach a decision

Mr. Gore has said he believed his solicitations were lawful and intended to raise what is known as "soft money" to be used only for general party pur-

Several high-level Democratic National Committee officials attended the November 1995 meeting, including That report, written by Charles La Donald Fowler, the committee chairmoney by the president or vice president Bella, who last month returned to his man, and Marvin Rosen, the finance



Vice President Al Gore, according to documents, met with his aides in 1995 to discuss making use of donations made to the Democratic Party.

Lewinsky Testifies 'Truthfully and Completely' to Grand Jury

By Brian Knowlton tional Herald Tribu

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton's surprise announcement Thursday of U.S. military strikes against suspected terrorist bases ahroad dramatically wrested attendon from a return visit to the grand jury by Monica Lewinsky.

Mr. Clinton had been in seclusion on the Massachusetts resort island of Martha's Vineyard since arriving there Tuesday after testifying a day earlier before the grand jury investigating the sex-and-perjury allegations.

make a brief but dramatic announcement, at a school oo the island, of the strikes against alleged terrorist bases, before returning to Washington for a full briefing by national security aides.

Mr. Clinton spoke to the nation from the Oval Office later Thursday. While his critics normally might be expected to rally behind the president owned by Ms. Lewinsky had found evduring a moment of foreign crisis, it was

clear that some would not. During a Pentagon briefing, Defense Secretary William Cohen was asked whether the president might have ordered the strikes to shift attention from domestic problems. He responded hluntly that the only modvadon for the attack was to prevent future terrorist

attacks such as those in Africa. Ms. Lewinsky was expected to face detailed questioning Thursday about reported inconsistencies between her earlier testimony and Mr. Clinton's on the exact nature of their sexual relationship. The Washington Post reported that there were conflicts between Ms. Lewinsky's grandjury testimony and Mr. Clinton's about the nature of their relationship and the circumstances around her return of gifts

The former White House intern, wearing a light gray suit, showed no emotion as she entered the federal courthouse

quickly and without comment. She answered all questions truth-

finished her testimony. "Ms. Lewinsky is now looking forward to beginning the ident received an imexpected but welcome the special counsel, Kenneth Starr, that left ident received an imexpected but welcome the special counsel. Kenneth Starr, that left importance of the dress and of process of rebuilding her life."

Ms. Lewinsky expected her appearance before the grand jury to be her last but "will cominue of course as necessary to fulfill her ohligations to the Office of Independent Counsel," Ms. Smith said. She would not discuss what Ms. Lewinsky

said before the grand jury.

By several accounts, Ms. Lewinsky felt hurt and embittered by Mr. Clinton's comments in a televised address Monday because he spoke of the relationship dismissively and failed to address the pain Bot he interrupted his vacation to she and her family had endured.

As the grand jury investigation moves nearer a conclusion, the independent counsel's office has been furnished a sample of the president's DNA, probably blood or hair, reports said. The request, made before Mr. Clinton's testimony Monday, appeared to indicate that the FBI laboratory that examined a dress idence of a sexual encounter and wanted a DNA sample for comparison.

As debate continued among Mr. Clinton's closest advisers about how he should tinuing on the nation's editorial pages, ently was obtained from blood or in oral sex but also in intimate tooching respond to the scandal — particularly to some aides were said to be pressing him to hair tissue stored at the Bethesda that would have been covered by the criticism from some political allies and offer new, more persuasive, words of con- Naval Hospital in Maryland, where Jones definition.

the House, told a business group that it was ton supporters disappointed. "If the prestime for the news media to limit their ident wants this to be over," a senior coverage of the Lewinsky affair.

"I have a message for the news media, and I mean this very seriously," the Georgia Republican said in Atlanta. The editors and publishers and producers of this country ought to put themselves on a diet to oot spend more than 20 percent of their time on the scandal."

Mr. Gingrich, who as speaker comes only after Vice President Al Gore in the presidential line of succession, did not mention Mr. Clinton or Ms. Lewinsky by oame but his focus was clear.

"I have a very simple proposal," he said, "and that is to allow Judge Starr to finish his work and give his report to Congress, allow Chairman Henry Hyde to take that report to the Judiciary Committee and allow them do their jobs while we go on to work on the nation's business." Mr. Hyde, a Republican of Illinois. chairs the House Judiciary Committee.

With sharp criticism of Mr. Clinton con-

bit of help. Newt Gingrich, the speaker of many Republicans furious and many Clin-Ms. Lewinsky's testimony Thursday appresidential aide told the Los Angeles Times, "he has to act like it and not look like he's continuing a war with Starr."

Meanwhile, the fact that Mr. Starr had requested the presidential DNA sample raised questions about exactly what his office hoped to prove, now that Mr. Clinton has acknowledged an improper relationship with Ms. Lewinsky.

Analysts surmised that he might want concrete evidence to underpin his expected report to Congress on possibly mpeachable offenses, which could include a charge of perjury; on Jan. 17, Mr. Clinton denied under oath having a sexual relationship with Ms. Lewinsky. He was being questioned by attorneys in the Panla Jones sexual harassmeot case.

It was also possible that Mr. Starr might hope for evidence from the dress to contradict Mr. Clinton's alleged assertion that the two bad bad only oral sex.

The president's DNA sample appar-

peared to hinge on efforts by Mr. Starr to prove that Mr. Clinton lied, and perhaps committed perjury, when he told lawyers for Mrs. Jones in Janoary that he had ever had sex with Ms. Lewinsky.

Mr. Clinton, who apparently relied on a very narrow definition, said Monday that he was "legally accurate" hut not entirely forthcoming in making that assertion.

In his grand jury testimony, according to The Washington Post, he admitted that he had received oral sex from Ms. Lewinsky, hut according to his advisers he did oot believe that was included in the definition Mrs. Jones's lawyers offered of "sexual relations."

But The New York Times quoted an unidentified Clinton adviser as saying that the president had avoided acknowledging that he had had oral sex or any other specific type of sexual contact with Ms. Lewinsky, but instead said over and over. 'I've already said that it was improper."

Ms. Lewinsky, The Post reported, has testified that not only did the two engage

Democrats say they fear the president's speech makes it more likely that the Starr investigation will overwhelm any other message they bope to deliver during the autumn campaign — the opposite of what they had hoped and the White House intended.

As the White House scrambled for advice on how to contain the damaging fallout from the nationally televised address, another prominent Democrat complained about Mr. Clinton's performance. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York called the speech "not adequate" because Mr. Clinton had anequate because for his relationship with Ms. Lewinsky and because he had attacked Mr. Starr. "What were we doing hearing about the special prosecutor?"
Mr. Moynihan said in a radio interview.
Mr. Moynihan's comments came a

day after such Democrats as Senator Thomas Daschie of South Dakota, the minority leader; Representative Richard Gephardt of Missouri, the House minorleader, and Senator Dianne Feinstein of California registered their disapproved al of what Mr. Clinton did with Ms. Lewinsky or how he explained it Monday night. That same day. Representative Paul McHale, Democrat of Pennsylvania, urged Mr. Clinton to

resign.

With some exceptions, such as Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa and Representative Barney Frank of Massachusetts, who have been steadfast in their defense of Mr. Clinton, Democratic lawmakers have been tentative to defensive in their assessments of Mr. Clinton's speech, while expressing clear disapproval of his relationship with Ms. Lewinsky.

Many Democrats have issued written statements, and the few who have ventured onto national television to try to defend Mr. Clinton have made comments critical of him as well. One of those was Representative Vic Fazio of California, who spoke with Mr. Clinton after the president's speech Monday.
On CNN, Mr. Fazio said, "I'm oot disappointed" with Mr. Clinton's

speech and said further pursuit of the investigation by the independent coun-sel represented "a kind of partisan ven-detta." But Mr. Fazio also said he was "disappointed in my president" and frustrated that the issue had diverted attention from issues Democrats hope to use in their autumn campaigns.

The political reaction to the president's speech was far different than anything White House officials anticipated. With overnight polls showing Mr. Clinton's approval rating holding strong and reports from focus groups showing a good response to what Mr. Clinton had to say, they were caught off guard by the response from Capitol Hill.

Most Republican leaders, including

the House speaker, Newt Gingrich of Georgia, have cautioned colleagues not to speak of impeachment lest they appear to be prejudging Mr. Starr's report to Congress. Most Americans still oppose impeachment, polls show. But Mr. Gingrich and other leaders have not objected to calls for Mr. Clinton to resign.

Some members have begun floating the possibility of issning a censure or reprimand against Mr. Clinton for his conduct. "Republicans are discussing it as a possibility," a Democratic congressional source said.

Other lawmakers may resist such a move, Lindsey Graham, Republican of South Carolina, a member of the House Judiciary Committee, said bis panel should decide to either investigate the charges in Mr. Starr's report as part of an impeachment inquiry or drop the matter altogether. "I don't think Congress has a role in spanking the president," Mr. Graham said.

But even as they largely held their fire against Mr. Clinton himself, Republicans were calculating how his difficulties might affect the upcoming coogressional elections. In remarks to a crowd of supporters in suburban Atlanta. Mr. Gingrich said the Republican Party would benefit in November because Democrats would not turn out to vote. The Associated Press reported.

"When things happen that make one side's partisans unhappy," he said, "they stay home. When they stay home, they stay home for the whole ticket." Friends of the administration ex-

essed anger that Mr. Clinton had al lowed his resentment of Mr. Starr 15 overrule a White House poliocal team, skilled in crisis management, that wanted more contrition and less defiance.

"Closure wasn't achieved and some new troubles were unearthed," a former senior official said, "because he rejected the advice of people who have been loyal and protective of him successfully for six years and are some of the best at this stuff in the history of the presidency. Others simply said Mr. Clinton failed

himself at one of the most critical moments of his presidency.

"Everybody was certain he would rise to the occasion, and for the first time he didn't do it." one former administration official said

Said another veteran of Mr. Clinton's first term: "Everybody agrees he blew it. He could have killed this in January or he could have killed it on Monday, and he didn't do it either time.'

Republicans Open Ad Campaign Using Clinton-Lewinsky Scandal

WASHINGTON - The first Republican campaign ad seeking to capitalize on the Monica Lewinsky investigation and other White House scandals has hit eridge. Etheridge gives Bill Clinton a

Dan Page, a North Carolina state senator trying to unseat Representative Bobby Etheridge, a Democrat, is using the commercial to tie his opponent to President Bill Clinton and the array of allegations against the administration.

'Scandal after scandal, day after day." the ad says, which shows a Newsweek cover featuring Mr. Clinton and fully and completely," her spokeswom- Miss Lewinsky, "And who stands with an. Judy Smith, said after Ms. Lewinsky Bill Clinton even now? Liberal Bob Eth-

standing ovation. Applauding Clinton's values, not ours.'

BRIEFLY

The ad concludes, "Dan Page believes character counts and morality matters." The Page ad has one problem. It features a series of banner headlines crudely superimposed under the logos of USA Today, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times. The headlines are not in the newspapers' type faces, and two USA Today headlines were taken from letters to the ed-

(WP)The independent counsel Kenneth Starr

won an important court victory Wednesday --- but not one involving Mr. Clinton. A federal appeals court handed Mr. Starr a 3-0 decision in a \$400 million legal dispute between Meineke Discount Muffler Shops - Mr. Starr's client and a group of its franchisees, who claim the company defrauded them.

A small change in the wording of a poll question by The Gallup Organization led to a significant overstatement percent unfavorable.

itor. A Page consultant denied that the ad of the drop in Mr. Clinton's personal favorability rating after his speech on Monday. Instead of a 20-point drop in the per-

sonal rating, reported by Gailup and picked up by several news organizations, the actual drop now appears to be considerably less.

In Monday's survey, taken after the president's speech, respondents were asked: "Now thinking about Bill Clinton as a person, do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of him?"

Monday's survey elicited responses that were 40 percent favorable and 48

In previous Gallup polls, the wording was: "Now I'd like to get your opinion abont some people in the news. As I read the name, please say if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of this The traditional wording last week had

es/light

found views of Mr. Clinton that were 60 percent favorable and 38 percent up favorable. Thus, it appeared on Monday that there had been a 20-percentage point drop in Clinton's personal ratings.

in a poli on Tuesday, Gallup, using its traditional wording, measured views that were 55 percent favorable against 42 percent unfavorable.

EUROPE

30 Years Later, Czechs Still Feel Bewildered and Betrayed by Invasion

By Peter Finn

PRAGUE — Thirty years ago, two Communist leaders were on the telephone — with the Soviet secret police recording every word — and one of them, Leonid Brezhnev, the Soviet party chief, was steaming mad.
The Prague Spring liberalization of

1968 was in full bloom, and in the new press had dared to call Mr. Brezhnev a

"And what, I might ask, do you say



Stunned Czechs gathered early

On the night of Aug. 20 that year, the Russians and Warsaw Pact allies invaded Czechoslovakia to crush demo-

cratic reforms. After communism began to collapse at the end of the 1980s, a trove of historical documents gradually emerged from the secret archives in Moscow and other capitals of the

former Soviet bloc. To mark the 30th anniversary of the nvasion of Czechoslovakia, selections of the most critical and fascinating documents relating to the Prague reforms at all. and the crushing of the Dubcek regime have been collected and translated into

English, many for the first time. 'Our knowledge is deepening and extending, said Jaromir Navratil, 72, chief editor of the collection, which is being published in the United States by the Central European University Press and the private, Washington-based National Security Archive.

The documents first surfaced through the Czechoslovak Government Commission for Analysis of the Events of 1967-70, which was created in 1989, after communist fell in Prague, to hunt down documents across Europe.

. In all, 140 key documents, culled from 140,000, are being published this month and they include memoirs, minutes of meetings, cablegrams, Aug. 21 after the invaders arrived. private letters and transcripts of dis-

Navratil, there is a curious factor at work in this city, where it all started.

The Prague Spring was a dramanc time when a reformist Communist leadership ashered in economic liberalization, allowed free speech and raised the possibility, at least, of a democranic

Then, overnight, the liberal move-ment was crushed by the Russians and

their allies. Three decades later, the event is being recalled here mostly with a shrug, if

To be sure, there is a three-part series on Czech television. There are a few photographic exhibits around town and on Friday there will be a memorial mass and a commemoration for those killed by the invading armies of the Soviet Union, backed by units from other

Communist neighbors. But few Czechs are stopping to dwell

The Czech polling agency Rendula this week asked 1,421 teenagers between the ages of 14 and 18 what the words "August 1968" meant to them, and 43 percent said, "Nothing."

One in four did not even know that something historic occurred in 1968. The lack of knowledge among the young finds a parallel in the apathy of their elders.

"Some people think 1968, the ignored."

about this?" Mr. Brezhnev fumed at Alexander Dubcek, first secretary of the Czechoslovak party.

As understanding of the events of Mr. Dubcek, according to the transcript, kept silent.

Czechoslovak party.

As understanding of the events of 1968 is constantly enriched by the archival digging of historians like Mr.

Name of the drama on both sides of the Cold War divide.

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Name of the Cold War divide.

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As understanding of the events of 1968 is constantly enriched by the 200 hours of the 200 ho weekly Tydeo and now an adviser to the Czech Senate leader, Petr Pithart.

'Any good or positive memory of the Communist Party today is unpopular," said Karel Srp, a former dissident who is holding an exhibition on 1968 in

a Prague park.
Jan Urban, publisher of the Prague-based monthly Transitions, said people were not avoiding the memory of the Prague Spring so much as had memories of the invasion's aftermath.

Czech society not only acquiesced to the most oppressive and sterile form of communism, he said, but even replenished the purged ranks of the Com-

"You can be defeated and maintain honor and societal ties but nothing like that was preserved here," Mr. Urban

"Humiliation prevents us from lonking back. Why, after '68, why after the purges when everything was clear to everybody, why was the party able to get its membership back?

"Everyone is a newly born anti-Communist today, so who wants to remember support for communism."

Mr. Navratil is more hopeful and notes that however muted the commemorations this week may seem, there is much more interest in 1968 now than five years ago, when the 25th anniversary of the invasion was largely



Soviet tank crews in central Prague were startled by the Czechs' anger.

true," Mr. Navratil said. He served as an adviser in 1968 and then, ousted after the invasion, spent 20 and spiritual crisis in society.

■ Insight Into Communism

years as an ordinary laborer.

eve of the 30th anniversary of the So- in any invasion, Agence France-Presse viet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia reported from Bratislava.

"I would say the cliché about Czechs that it taught the world about the true not being interested in the past is oot nature of communism, Reuters reported Thursday from Prague.

He said it reflected a deep cultural Separately, Walt Rostow, a former

adviser to President Lyndon Johnson, revealed Thursday that the Prague lead-President Vaclav Havel said on the ers asked Washington not to intervene

Europe's Intellectuals Write Off Kohl as Spent Force

fairs who now teaches at Bard College, ationist Ioward the Soviet Union. He

has written a hiography that also provides favored sharing the secret of atomic en-

a useful, clear history of the major events ergy (though not the actual engineering

of the postwar world that Acheson helped know-how) with the Russians, believing

to shape - from the creation of the that to do otherwise would provide "un-

This is not a book of startling new Soviets, turning from moderate softness

insights or challenges to the accepted to moderate hardness. The major event

wisdom about a period that has been in the transformation, in Chace's ac-

thors and memoirists, including 1946 to intimidate Turkey into effec-Acheson himself. Bnt, like Acheson, tively turning over control of the

Acheson, despite his starched, upper-crust image, was, as Chace puts it, not chitect of containment, a pioneering

an American patrician." He was born in strategist of the Cold War.

system and of NATO to the decision to ican combination against them."

Woods international monetary answerable evidence of an Anglo-Amer-

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

BERLIN - You know that Chancellor Helmnt Kohl must be in trouble when even European intellectuals who say they admire him come to Berlin for an opposition campaign rally proclaiming the end of an era.

We need a kind of European new deal in all of Europe," said Jack Lang, a French Socialist and former culture minister who saw no contradiction between his admiration for the chancellor and the prevailing opinion at the proceedings Wednesday.

The opinion was that Mr. Kohl and his conservative government were thoroughly burned out after 16 years in office and that it was past time for a change — an opinion shared, needless most fervent supporters, but one of his to say, by the Social Democratic can-aides, Minister of State Anton Pfeifer,

The Secretary of State Who

Created the American World

512 pages. \$30. Simon & Schuster.

Reviewed by Richard Bernstein

THE year was 1950, and Washington, caught up in the terrors of Mc-

Carthyism, was not a generous or for-

Department official who denied furnish-

ing official documents to the Soviet Un-

ion, had been convicted of perjury be-cause of that denial, and his former

senior colleague, Dean Acheson, had

publicly announced that he would not

turn his back on the convicted man.

Acheson was brought before a Senate

committee to "clarify" his statement

which are disagreeable and dangerous.

Such a course might get one by the issue

of the moment, but it has bitter and evil

consequences. In the long days and

years which stretch beyond that moment

of decision, one must live with one's

self. . . . It is not merely a question of

a matter of integrity of character."

peace of mind, although that is vital; it is

Acheson's reluctance to turn publicly

against Hiss, his statement before the

censorious senators has a marvelously

square, almost fusty kind of rectitude

about it. It seems to come from a dif-

ferent age. But James Chace's theory in

of Dean Acheson, secretary of state from

1949 to 1953, is that Acheson forged the

Whatever you might think about

'The safe course is to avoid situations

about Hiss, and he had this to say:

By James Chace. Illustrated.

ACHESON

didate running against the chancellor in the Sept. 27 elections, Gerhard Schroeder, who listened quietly and applauded from time to time.

"Thave the greatest respect for Chan-cellor Kohl and for his historic accomplishment in the unification of Germany and the construction of Europe," Mr. Lang said, "and I have not forgotten that he was a loyal and affectionate friend of the late President Francois Minerand, to whom I was very

But he added, "We feel the moment has come, now or never, and not only in Germany, to give new vitality to this Europe that was born after World War

Mr. Kohl has never counted the German intellectual community among his

BOOKS

wage the Korean War in 1950.

giving place. Alger Hiss, a former State much written about by numerons au- count, was the clumsy Soviet effort in

Chace is a man of good judgment and broad knowledge. His focus on Acheson

provides a clear window on the prob-

lems the United States faced in the post-

war world and the reasoning behind the

Middletown, Connecticut, in 1893. His

father was an Episcopal clergyman of a nonconformist but detached disposition;

his warmer mother came from a pros-

perous family of English millers and

distillers. After Yale and Harvard Law

School, Acheson served as a law clerk for

Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis:

spent a few prosperous years in the law

firm of Covington & Burling and, when Franklin D. Ronsevelt became president

in 1933, began his career in government

1939, Acheson quickly became "fully

and openly committed to the cause of

ively to have understood, as Chace puts

it, "that the United States would have to

learn new ways of exercising power, both

When war broke out in Europe in

as undersecretary of the Treasury.

decisions that were made.

publicly protested the plans for the opposition rally Wednesday and accused Mr. Schroeder, whose lead in public opinion polls has narrowed in recent weeks, of trying to grab power through

Not everybody who was present saw their presence as a campaign endorse-ment. "I'm not taking sides in this elec-tion; I couldn't," said Elie Wiesel, who came with a prepared speech titled "To

a Young German Friend." "Just being here, of course, has some implications," he said, before the company moved from Willy Brandt House, a Social Democranc headquarters in the western part of Berlin, to Bertoll Brecht's old theater, the Berliner Ensemble, in the eastern part, for the evening.

Like many of us, I came here carried by hope," Mr. Wiesel, a survivor of the Nazi concentration camps who has writ-

But Acheson altered his view of the

Bosporus to Moscow. Acheson, Chace

writes, played an eloquent role at a cru-

cial meeting with President Harry Tru-

man, arguing the case for an assertive

U.S. role in combating what Acheson had come to see as a threat to freedom

As secretary of state, Acheson, in

Chace's approving portrait, struggled to

steer a course among distracting im-

pulses: isolationism, anni-communist hys-

teria, the intrusions of domestic politics.

In late 1950, after the devastating Chinese

intervention in Korea, Republicans in the

Senate and the House passed resolutions

to the effect that "Acheson had lost the

confidence of the country and should be

removed from office." Despite the at-

tacks, Chace describes Acheson whistling

cheerfully to himself as he listened to the

particularly about a figure of clear vision

and strong character who managed to

support mostly the right policies when

other policies were being proposed. One

can't help coming away feeling that

Americans were lucky to have had

Acheson around when they needed him.

New York Times Service

This is a book about public life, and

daily radio diatribes again him.

ten and spoken eloquently about the Holocaust, said in his prepared remarks.

His hope, he said, was "rooted in a desire to act on history so that the next century be placed under the sign of human solidarity instead of violence," a sentiment that Mr. Kohl has often expressed himself.

With a few exceptions, such as the writer Guenter Grass, who was not here Wednesday, neither German nor other European intellectuals mobilized very visibly for Mr. Kohl's opponent in the last elections four years ago.

What was different this time, some of them said, was the sense that Mr. Kohl's ideas about huilding Europe by forming a common market and laying the foundations for a common currency, the euro, to be introduced Jan. 1, had taken Germany about as far as they could.

Now, in the view of many here, it was

time for something else.
"We can't just talk about the euro or
an economic Europe," said Klaus
Stack, a well-known poster artist whose Action for More Democracy group organized the gathering. "One era is end-ing, and a new one is about to begin."

If the election were held this week. according to a poll by the Allensbach Institute published Wednesday in the daily Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, the Social Democrats and the Greens, with 43.6 percent and 7.5 percent respectively, would have enough votes in Parliament to form a government and relegate the Christian Democrats and the Free Democrats to opposition status. Mr. Kohl's party was favored by 36.4 percent of those surveyed.

Not all polls show the Christian Democrats so far behind. But none so far have given Mr. Kohl much chance of pulling his party ahead of the opposition in the month remaining before the elec-

The last Social Democratic chancellor was Mr. Brandt's successor. Helmut Schmidt, who was forced out in 1982 when the small Free Democratic Party changed sides and joined forces with Mr. Kohl's Christian Democrats.

Some intellectuals warned Wednesday against seeing the vote next month as an ideological choice. "If we want to bnild Europe, we will need to try to separate the left from socialism," said Bernard-Henri Levy, a French writer and philosopher.

BRIEFLY

Yeltsin Envoy Still Missing in Chechnya

MOSCOW - Officials in the hreakaway republic of Chechnya tried, but failed, to free an envoy of President Boris Yeltsin's who was kidnapped nearly four months ago. a news agency said Thursday.

Rescuers raided the town of Suruta. where they believed Valentin Vlasov was held, on Wednesday hut did not find him, according to the Itar-Tass

Mr. Vlasov was kidnapped at gun-point on May 1. No one has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping.

Hundreds of people have been kidnapped in Chechnya and surrounding regions, usually for ransom, since the region's two-year war for independence from Russia ended in 1996. (AP)

Prostitution Draws Ire of Italian Official

ROME — The Italian minister for social affairs, Livia Turco, has called on mayors to come up with an aggressive

Miss Turco, who says she is not opposed to prostitution per se - and who has suggested that prostitutes hand together in cooperatives - has come out in favor of strong fines against prostitutes' customers.

Milan and several other cities. prodded by residents who complain of noise and disruption in affected neigh-

borhoods, already levy such fines. Among them is Rimini, a popular summer beach resort, where anyone caught negotiating with a prostitute can be fined up to 1 million lire (\$565). According to news reports, prostitution has declined 80 percent since

police started levying fines last year. Miss Turco said Italy needed to combat the practice of forced prostitution and the drug trafficking sometimes as-sociated with it. Turco added she was not against prostitution in itself but was against the reopening of brothels, which

were shut down by law in 1958. Many prostitutes emigrate from Africa and eastern Europe and inadvertently become involved in pros-

titution when they answer ads for work in Italy, When they arrive, their 'bosses' often take their passports and refuse to return them until the women earn money hy becoming prostitutes.

Prostitution is not a crime in Italy, though it is a crime to exploit pros-

French Truckers **Want Shorter Hours**

PARIS - Truck drivers will stage a day of action across Europe on Sept. 8 in support of shorter working hours, the French pro-Socialist Democratic Labor Federation said Thursday.

It said the day of action was called by the London-hased International Transport Federation and the Brussels-based Transport Trade Union Federation.

The French union said the aim was twufold. One hope is to influence negotiations in Brussels concerning proposals to shorten the workweek. The union also maintains that shorter hours are needed to improve road

The union said it was demanding a hours, plus decent and safe roadside rest areas and an end to long waits at border.

The union did not rule out the possibility of road blocks set up by truckers to drive home their point. (AFP)

Swiss Police Destroy Suspicious Object

ZURICH - Police set off a controlled explosion in a main square of the Swiss financial capital on Thursday, blowing up an object suspected

of being a land mine. A round, plate-shaped object was reported hy a passerby in Limman-platz shortly before noon, one of the husiest times in the square, said a police spokesman. Bruno Kistler.

The square, near the main railway station, was sealed off and a robot was deployed to check and explode the object. The remains were being ex-

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

THE deal shown in the diagram was perhaps the uddest of the American Contract Bridge League's Summer Nationals in Chicago being vulnerable, planning to early this momh. It occurred revert to diamonds at a suitearly this month. It occurred at a crucial point in the semifinal of the Spingold Knockout Teams.

Going into the final 16 deals, the third-seeded team, led by Richard Schwartz of Flushing. New York, had seeded defending champions, headed by Grant Baze. In six deals they cut the margin to could bid three hearts to show 22 and then faced the

diagramed deal. Psychic bids are rare when chose in raise in four spades. top professionals are at work. but one certainly seemed in-dicated here. When North the plot, so Levin also passed

by Levin, South for the Schwartz team, knew that his game or a slam in spades. When East passed, he ventured three spades, in spite of able moment. Three spades was forcing, and would normally suggest a six-card suit

this sure-handed and readable biography aiding the Allies." He seems instinct-

international order as we know it today, learn new ways of exercising power, both even if hy now he seems, stylistically and in the present conflict and in the postwar

rhetorically, to be no longer a part of it.

Chace, a former editor of Foreign Af-

or a strong five-card suit.

Many players with the
North cards would rebid four diamonds, allowing South to what appeared to be a de- raise to game and leave the civive lead of 39 imps over opponents, perhaps, in contheir opponents, the top- fusion. An alternative was a stripper in that suit. But Steve Weinstein, as North,

Now a retreat to five dia-

would have been a good result if six spades had been availopponents could make a nhle to East-West, for the penalty of 900 would have been poor compensation for missing 1430. It would have been a slightly inferior result if 10 tricks were the limit for East-West: a penalty of 700 against the game score of 620. The worst result occurs if East-West can make exactly

> against a game score of 650. But the result was nevertheless a disaster, because East-West have a sound slam contract that does not make. Levin's teammates, Ron Smith and Mark Lair, hid to six spades, which was doubled. With the North-South hands reversed, six spades would make an overtrick, but as it was it was down one. The Schwartz team lost 14

imps, and eventually lost the

opened three diamonds, Bob- and the hidding ended. This match by just 1 imp, sendingthe Baze team to the final, thanks to their rare decision to play in a one-one fit.

> NORTH 7 10 2 ♦ KJ98832 EAST **◆ A K Q 8 4 3 4109852 VAQ975** 11 tricks: a penalty of 800 4982 SOUTH **⊽KJ84** OAQ1075 4643 Both sides were vulnerable. The

> > 34

By William Drozdiak Washington Post Service

BERLIN - If the Social Democratic leader Gerhard Schroeder can maintain his slender lead in the polls over Chancellor Helmut Kohl and form the next German government, it would culminate a remarkable transformation in the political leadership of Europe.

Three years ago, Germany, France, Italy and Britain were each ruled by conservative or rightist governments. A victory for Mr. Schroeder in the Sept. 27 national election would place left-ofcenter politicians at the helm of Europe's four largest economies.

Across the Atlantic, President Bill

Clinton and his advisers have seized on Europe's shifting political balance to promote a "third way" movement among progressive leaders, in which traditionally leftist parties ahandon state ownership of major industries, slash taxes and curtail costly welfare programs. The White House political counselor

Sidney Blumenthal is organizing a confereoce in New York next month on the fringe of the UN General Assembly session that will bring together Mr.
Clinton and several European prime
ministers, including Tony Blair of Britain, Lionel Jospin of France and Romano Prodi of Italy, for a discussion on forging common policy perspectives.

The idea of cultivating this kind of fellowship has generated the greatest enthusiasm in Britain, where Mr. Blair has moved the Labour Party sharply to now accounts for more than half of the everywhere, not just in Italy.

the center and worked hard at rein-vigorating the "special relationship"

A Political Shift Blows Through Europe

between London and Washington.
"We have a unique opportunity to shape a new kind of society adapted to globalization." Anthony Giddens, director of the London School of Economics and a prominent "third way" guru, said at a conference of the German Social Democrats in Berlin last month. "We are talking not just about eco-nomics," he said, but about "changed perceptions about life that will require

urgent reforms of our institutions. Mr. Giddens said that Europe needed to learn from the United States about introducing "more risk into our societies" to balance the social and economic security cherished by most Europeans. He said the generous pension, welfare and health-care benefits that provide a safety net in many European socienes cannot be sustained if the private sector is enfeehled by high taxes and wage costs.

Elsewhere on the Continent, however, reaction to talk of a movement among progressive leaders is guarded. While France is trying to encourage a new class of entrepreneurs, neither Mr. Jospin nor the conservative President Jacques Chirac is prepared to call into question a state-oriented economy dom-

inated by the public sector.

In Germany, where Mr. Kohl was elected chancellor in 1982 by vowing to reverse the country's socialist trends, the public sector has grown steadily under 16 years of conservative rule and

country's gross national product. Welfare deductions average a record 42 per-

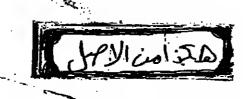
cent of wages and salaries.
While Mr. Schroeder has emphasized the need to modernize the sluggish German economy through innovation and technology, he is wary about talk of a third way" that would jeopardize the social welfare perquisites that many Germans consider hirthrights. He says he will apply whatever policy can produce

the best results, regardless of labels. "I am neither right nor left," Mr. Schroeder, 54, said in a recent interview. "I'm a human being."

The old ideologies have been overtaken hy the forces of history," he said. I'm only interested in what works on the ground; it's what I like to call total

In Italy, the Olive Tree coalition headed by Mr. Prodi also has defied old leftist shibboleths about the sanctity of hig government. Indeed, within Italy's revamped politics since corruption scan-dals earlier this decade ended 40 years of Christian Democratic rule, the strongest advocate of maintaining a large state sector is now the neo-fascist National

Alliance headed by Giantranco Fini. "There is no question that the left thinks differently these days," Mr. Prodi said in an interview in Rome. What happens in a world where ideulogy is less important, when there is less that divides right from left?" Mr. Prodi said. "It is all part of a quiet revolution that is transforming politics



ASIA/PACIFIC

For Malaysian Women, Stereotypes Don't Apply

In Rural Province, the Wives Run the Show, At Least in Business, but Only Up to a Point

> By Thomas Fuller International Herald Tribund

KOTA BARU, Malaysia — li has often been assumed in Malaysia that women who wear head scarves are less independent-minded than their bareheaded counterparts.

Tell that to the women of Kelantan. Here, in what is Malaysia's most Muslim state, women practically run the show. They dominate the retail trade at the large market in the center of this capital city, and they prepare the meals and count the change at the outdoor food stalls while their husbands look after the

Hanisah Mohammed Yatim, a Kelantan woman who owns a music shop, clothing boutique, beauty salon and Internet cafe and is general manager of one of the city's leading hotels, calls er husband an 'assistant.

"Kelantan women are hardworking," says Hasnah binte Chik Muda, a

'A women's place is in the home? That's history.' Besides, During bargaining women are patient. Men just get angry.'

mother of four who sells batik cloth among the hundreds of stalls at Kota Baru's central market.

"Look around," she adds raising her voice over the din of market activity. "Ninety percent of the merchants here are women." Women like Mrs. Hasnah wear head scarves and long-flowing dresses in brilliant colors that match the fruit sold in the market: rambutan reds, mangosteen purples and durian greens

They say they do not know why they are more involved in husiness than women from other areas of the country. That is just the way they were brought up. Men in Kelantan often shrug when asked the question.

"From whatever records we have which go back to the 19th century women in Kelantan have always been involved in husiness." said Khoo Kay Kim, professor of Malaysian history at

And although they control many busioesses in Kelantan, politics has fargely remained the domain of men in the state — and politicians these days are saying some things the women do not want to hear.

The Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party, which has been running the state govemment since 1990, is stacked with men who have passed a number of laws they -say are designed to protect women. Although Malaysia is 60 percent Muslim, Kelantan is the only state among the 13 to be governed by the Islamic opposition party.

Muslim women employees in shops, restaurants and hotels are required to wear head scarves on the joh, and supermarkets must have separate male and female check-out lines.

'When Islam instructs women to cover their bodies, it is to prevent immoral activities," says Nik Aziz, the state's chief minister. "Their bodies have attracting characteristics." Few women interviewed in Kota Baru dispute this. They say they do not mind wearing a head scarf and loose fitting clothes. They have been wearing head

scarves since they were young and, after all, that is what Islam calls for.

It is Mr. Aziz's views on women's social roles that they disagree with — especially his call for more women to stay at home with their children.
It is not our objective to change the

social order here or the tradition of womeo running small business," Mr. Aziz said io a recent interview. "Bot what we are worried about is the long separation between mothers and their

Many husbands in Kelantan take care of the childreo while their wives are at work, and this, Mr. Aziz says, is not healthy for the children, who need to feel a mother's "vihrations and feelwhich a father cannot provide.

ings," which a father cause partial Mr. Aziz, who is a Muslim scholar by training, says the state has three programs to encourage working women to av closer to home

Few women take issue with Mr. Aziz directly — to do so, they say, would be to criticize Islam itself — but they reject the notion of staying at home to take

'Father or mother - it's the same," said Salma binte Mohamed, who sells brightly colored scarves at the market and whose husband comes home from his joh as a teacher at 2 P.M. every day to lonk after the children. "Sometimes children can be closer to their father."

"A womeo's place is in the home?" asked Mrs. Hasnah, the batik cloth seller, "That's history." Besides, she says, women are better at dealing with customers. "During hargaining women

are patient, Men just get angry.

Despite diverging opinions on child-rearing, Mr. Aziz is widely admired by both women and men in Kelantan. His weekly Friday sermons are packed, and Kelantenese enjoy the analogies he uses to explain Islamic social prescriptions.

Women should be covered up, he says, "for the same reason that when you carry cash you need to keep it in a pocket and zip it up. Otherwise, if children see your money, it might encourage them to take it." Not everyone rees with Mr. Aziz on this point.

"They should research what is practical and not," says Raja Rusmin, who is in charge of public relations at the city's higgest hotel, the Diamond Puteri, and one of the few Muslim women in the city who does not wear a head scarf. 'Sometimes they force things. They have to make sure it comes from the heart."

Sometimes independence for women only goes so far in Kelantan, however. When a reporter showed up at a hotel cafe to interview Mrs. Hanisah at an appointed time, the husinesswoman and

owner of the music shop and clothing boutique was nowhere to be found. Waiting instead was her brother-inlaw who said the interview would take

place at Mrs. Hanisah's home. 'If people saw you there, they would with?" the brother-in-law said, Who's that man she's talking

The interview took place, but in Mrs. Hanisah's living room with her husband and hrother-in-law seated nearby, anxiously snacking on peanuts, and occasionally interjecting their views.

Half-way through the interview, the hrother-in-law, Shariff Abdullah, interrupted Mrs. Hanisah to give his interpretation of womeo's status in Kelantan.

After two minutes of historical analysis, Mr. Shariff looked at the reporter sitting next to Mrs. Hanisah and concluded his mocologue. "That," he said. "is what she meant to say."



RALLYING SUPPORT - Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad in Kuala Lumpur on Thursday as he sought acceptance of economic reforms.

North Korea Is Expected To Name Kim President

Agence France-Presse

SEOUL - The North Korean Parliament will convene oext mooth, it was announced Thursday, apparently to name Kim Jong II as head of state and to shuffle top administrative posts.
"The first session of the 10th Su-

preme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will be convened in Pyongyang on Sept. 5," the official press agency KCNA said in a dispatch.

The announcement was seeo in Seoul as a sign that the Communist state was poised to officially name the son of its founder and former leader as president. Mr. Kim's father, Kim Il Sung, died in July 1994. The younger Mr. Kim was elected general secretary of the ruling

Communist Party last October.

Kim Jong II is expected to assume the presidency on Sept. 9, the 50th anniversary of the proclamation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The assembly is also seen as likely to name a new prime minister and defense

minister and fill about 20 senior posts in the party, military and administration. 'Many people below ministerial rank, ecially in the fields of economic afespecially

fairs and inter-Korean relations, are ex-pected to be reshuffled," an official of the South Korean Unification Ministry official told Yonhap News Agency on condition of anonymity. "But the North is not likely to put forward new policy directions. It is most likely to stick to its own socialism and self-reliance policy."

Indonesia Troops Exit Aceh Amid Rage Over Alleged Army Abuses

By Michael Richardson

JAKARTA - Indonesia began its promised withdrawal of combat troops from Aceh Province oo Thursday, in a move that ooderlined public anger over increasing evidence of widespread military abuses.

As a convoy of trucks carried 200 soldiers and 50 members of the special forces out of the industrial city of Lhoksenmawe, in Aceh on the northern tip of the island of Sumatra, Indonesian civil rights activists said that recently discovered mass graves soon to be exhumed in the province would put further pressure on the government of President B.I. Habibie to ensure that its promised democratic reforms would be extended to the

once-untouchable army establishment. Amid several trials and investigations of its men — including three generals — for alleged abuses of power, the armed forces are taking steps to atone for ex-cesses committed during the 32-year autocratic rule of former President Suharto, who was forced to resign in May

after protests and riots engulfed Jakarta. In the new atmosphere of greater open-ness and media freedom, the military is coming under scrutiny as never before.

Abdurrahman Wahid, chairman of

Nahdlatti Ulama, the largest Muslim social organization in Indonesia, said that the image of the armed forces "has now reached the lowest level ever in its

As an increasing oumber of political parties and nongovernmental organiza-tions are formed — many of them highly critical of the Suharto government and the support it received from the armed forces — demands are growing for the military to become more professional and reduce its involvement in politics.

The military recently promised to withdraw all combat troops from the disputed former Portuguese colony of East Timor and Aceh, which has special autonomous status under Indonesian law, to try to improve its reputation and ease tensions.

Armed separatists have long been ac-tive in both regions, as well as the province of Irian Jaya, where military excesses have also been reported.

The military said Thursday that is would withdraw a further 729 troops from Aceh on Aug. 31, completing the removal of combat forces pledged by the armed forces chief, General Wiranto, this month.

But some Indonesian newspapers have said that there are still more fighting soldiers to be withdrawn. The Kompas daily estimated that before the withdrawal Thursday, 12,000 soldiers remained in Aceh, half of them combat troops.

About 500 locals watched the soldiers stage their final parade outside the egislative assembly in Lhokseumawe. There were loud cheers as the troops marched to a convoy of trucks, and

some of the crowd shouted abuse and shook their fists as the soldiers departed, Renters reported from the town.

"They have done nothing but make the people of Aceh suffer," said Rizal, one of a crowd of young men shouting abuse at the convoy of passing trucks.

We're glad they're gone. The soldiers leave behind accusations of mass killings and extensive human rights violations during a crackdown on the independence movement in the staunchly Muslim province since 1989.

Acehnese human rights groups say that 11 mass graves have been discovered in the province, containing up to 1,600 corpses. A fact-finding team from the official Human Rights Commission arrived Thursday in Aceh to investigate. In a recent joint report, Human Rights

Watch in New York and Amnesty International in London said that in the three years from 1989, as many as 2,000 civilians, soldiers and members of the Free Aceh guerrilla group were killed, including many who were "unlawfully killed by the armed forces of both

The two human rights organizations said that at least 1,000 people were arbitrarily arrested by Indonesian security forces on suspicion of supporting the Free Aceh movement, or because of family connections to members of the group.

Both President Habibie and General

Wiranto have offered apologies this month for army atrocities.

In his first Independence Day address to the nation, Mr. Habibic said Saturday that an investigation of the military was imperative to restore the digoity and honor of our armed forces.

"Oo behalf of the government, I would like to express my deepest regrets for the human rights violations in several regions committed by individuals from the state apparatus in the past." he said. "I apologize to the Indonesian people, in particular to the families of

A government panel, including mil-itary officials, is investigating whether elements in the armed forces incited anti-Chinese riots in May.

Official investigations are continuing into the fatal shooting of four student protesters at Trisakti University in Jakarta immediately before those riots.

A separate military board is investigating why special forces troops were involved in the abduction, torture and suspected killing of anti-Suharto activists. The board, which has just handed its recommendations to General Wiranto for action, has said that a son-inlaw of Mr. Suharto, Lieutenant General Prabowo Sobianto, was directly respon-

sible and may be court-martialed.

BRIEFLY

Burma Dissident's Health Slips

RANGOON — Burma's opposition National League for Democracy said Thursday the health of Daw Aung San Suu lengthy partial ban might have cost the territory 0.35 Kyi, its leader, was deteriorating and she would have to give percent of this year's gross domestic product.

It also said Daw Aung San Suu Kyi would be prepared to return to her home in Rangoon if the government released NLD members of Parliament and activists detained since late May.

A party statement said the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, who has been stuck with three supporters in a minivan southwest of Rangoon since Aug. 12, had been visited by her doctor who found her health "frail" but

"The situation has been reached that their food and water is no longer enough," the statement said. "If her health becomes worse, the General Secretary will receive medical treatment from her own doctor at her own house, of her own volition." It quoted the doctor as saying Daw Aung San Suu Kyi showed signs of dehydration.

Hong Kong Airport Gets Moving

HONG KONG — Hong Kong's oew airport will start Monday handling all air cargo moving through the territory for the first time since it opened in early July, the main cargo handler said Thursday.

Serious computer and mechanical glitches at the new

airport had crippled air cargo transport, forcing Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals to move parts of the operation back to

A company statement said the new cargo terminal will

process all cargo transport starting Monday, eight days ahead of the schedule set by the cargo handler and the

government. Air cargo services have been back to normal

Toll of India Landslides Rises

BAREILLY, India -- India began evacuating thousands of villagers along two river valleys in the Himalayas on Thursday as officials and relief agencies said the death toll in a series of landslides could cross 300.

Relatives in the army garrison town of Bareilly waited for news of 60 Hindu pilgrims who were among more than 200 people missing and feared dead in a huge landslide that hit the makeshift camp of Malapa on Tuesday. The death toll in a landslide that hit another village rose to

26. Smaller landslides were reported elsewhere. (Reuters)

China Official's Sentence Upheld BELIING — The most senior Chinese leader ensuared in

crackdown on graft lost his appeal Thursday of a 16-year prison sentence in the nation's higgest corruption scandal. The Supreme People's Court upheld the sentence handed down last month to Chen Xitong, 68, a former mayor and Communist Party chief of Beijing, the state-run Xinhua News Agency said.

Few details from Mr. Cheo's closed trial have been released, and state-run media have reported little to clarify his role in a scandal that may have cost Beijing more than \$2

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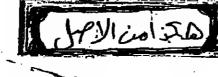
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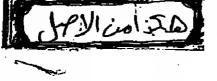
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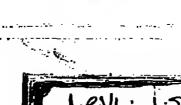
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Now What?

Some congressional Democrats began to put a little distance between themselves and President Bill Clinton following his grudging and inadequate acknowledgment Monday night that be "misled people" in the Monica Lewinsky case. It is important that they do so, but in the right way and for the right reasons. The case is headed for Congress, the next one if not this, once independent counsel Kenneth Starr makes his report. Congress will have to decide what if anything to do.

It will be a disaster if those proceedings are allowed to degenerate in-to a partisan mud fight, as have other investigations of presidential behavior in the past. The need is for a judgment that is just and that deals in some rational way with the question of how the country is to be governed for the remainder of the president's term. The Democrats perhaps even more than the Republicans bold the keys in that. It is they who can set the tone.

The president has committed a buge breach of trust. This time he was not just slippery. He looked people straight in the eye — his own cabinet members, aides, fellow Democrats — and denied having done what he now acknow-ledges he did. He sent them ont to deny it in turn. He looked the country in the eye as well and likewise denied it via television. He denied it under oath in a

court to keep the independent counsel from then investigating the matter, and by invoking the immunities of his of-fice in contexts in which they were never meant to be used, ended up weakening what he purported to de-fend. The fight, which he could have avoided by simply saying "yes" instead of "no" — by telling the truth lasted seven months, and did other forms of damage as well. He wants the country now to drop the issue — "Our country has been

court proceeding. He went at length to

distracted by this matter for too long"

— and let him serve out his term. At the opposite end of the spectrum, there bave been some scattered calls for his impeachment or for him to resign. Our own sense is that there needs to be, at a minimum, some formal judgment rendered on his conduct once the pro-secutor has reported. A four-minute speecb on television in which he largely evaded the responsibility he pretended to accept does not resolve the issue. It was, in a way, a further expression of contempt for the truth not told to suggest that it did.

A verdict is needed in this case, a

statement as to what does and doesn't constitute acceptable behavior. The president's fellow Democrats need to

play a part in reaching it.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Peace After Omagh

In the deadliest single bombing ever in Northern Ireland's long history of troubles, altogether 28 people were killed last Saturday afternoon when a terrorist bomb exploded in the market town of Omagh. Many of them were children; a carnival was in town. Many more children oow lie in hospitals. Some have lost limbs.

This was not bow things were supposed to be after Northern Ireland's long-warring enemies, Catholic guerrillas who wanted union with the Republic of Ireland to the south and Protestant guerrillas who cherished Northern Ireland's ties to the United Kingdom, agreed after 30 years of strife to make peace. This was not how it was supposed to be after overwhelming majorities in both the south and the north ratified that agreement, voting in May for peace and compromise.

But we know enough cow, from the Middle East and Ireland and elsewhere, not to be surprised when progress toward peace paradoxically energizes those most committed to violence, those who have h support and can thrive only in an atmosphere of fear and hatred.

In the aftermath of this most despicable of attacks, people in Ireland have shown more than ever that they bave no more stomach for continued violence. Those believed to be associated with the conscienceless splinter group responsible for the Omagh attack have been hounded into hiding. A leading Catholic politician, the Sinn

Fein's Gerry Adams, for the first time has forthrightly condemned a Catholic terrorist attack. Just as encouraging, a leading Protestant politician, David Trimble, has condemned the attack and its perpetrators without blanketing all pro-Republican groups with his criticism. On Wednesday, Mr. Trimble journeyed to a Catholic church in a seaside Irisb village to attend the fu-neral of three boys killed in Omagh. These may seem obvious steps, but in the pained cootext of Northern Ireland they represent important moves toward cooperation.

There can be no "good" side to a horror like this, and it is famous to speak of one. But some outcomes can be less bad than others. The worst, now, would be if the few remaining terrorists — in this case, a tiny group calling itself the "Real IRA" — succeeded in derailing the still fragile peace process. If, on the other hand, aothorities redouble their efforts against the bombers, as the prime ministers of Ireland and Britain have properly pledged, shames Catholic and Protestant polincians alike into accelerating the trusthuilding process that most Irish people so clearly want, then the less had outcome at least has a chance.

Then Omagh may be remembered not only as a place of infamy but as a moment when Ireland showed once and for all that terror could not dictate the course of events.

-THE WASHINGTON POST.

Other Comment

Defeat for the Bombers

For the second time in as many months, an atrocity designed to drive a stake through the heart of the Irish peace process appears to have achieved exactly the opposite result.

Last month, the loyalists who

burned three children in death in Ballymoney created such a wave of revulsion among ordinary Unionists that they broke the back of the Drumcree protests and decisively isolated the most backward wing of Orangeism.

Now the massacre perpetrated by the "Real IRA" in Omagh — a bombing intended to cut the political ground from beneath both Gerry Adams and David Trimble - has left the splinter group's leaders running for cover in the face of bostility and rage from both the republican mainstream and the wider nationalist population.

Paradoxically, the worst carnage of Northern Ireland's troubles has only served to emphasize the solid foundations of the political process constructed to bring them to an eod. — The Guardian (London).

Watch for a Recession

The year 2000 problem is a very serious threat to the U.S. economy. Indeed, it is also bound to seriously disrupt the entire global economy. Currently, I believe that there's a 70

percent chance of a global recession as severe as the one that occurred in 1973-1974 as a result.

I use the analogy of '73-'74 because just the way that recession was caused by a disruption in the supply of oil. I believe that a disruption in the flow of information could be equally as disruptive. The stock market in this scenario is bound in decline.

The year 2000 issue is obviously very relevant to thinking about the macroeconomy and financial markets. I predict that real GDP could drop by at least as much as it fell in '73-'74 in the United States. It dropped by nearly 4 percent from peak to trough. We had a 24-month recession. I think in the year 2000 we will have a recession that could last at least 12 months, possibly as much as 24 months.

But, at this point, I want to stay the optimist and tell you that I'm looking forward to predicting the recovery and the bull market of the year 2001.

But that's on the other side of the problem. On this side of the problem, I lonk for the stock market to make a major peak sometime between the beginning of this year and the end of next year, if you will allow me that wide a margin.

--- Edward Yardeni, chief economist of Deutsche Bank Securities, speaking at the National Press Club in Washington on Wednesday.

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International Herald Tribune, 181 Avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neullly-sur-Seine, France.
Tel.: (1) 41.43.93.00. Fox: Subscriptions, (1) 41.43.92.10; Advertising, (1) 41.43.92.12; News, (1) 41.43.93.38.
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S.A.S. au capital de 1.200.000 F. RCS Nanterre B 732021126. Commission Paritaire No. 61337
61998, International Herald Tribune. All rights reserved. ISSN: 0294-8052.



Either Restore Trust or Delegate Foreign Policy

WASHINGTON — Count among Bill Clinton's victims this week his secretary of state, his national security adviser and his foreign policy at ment of North Korea has been cheating large. President Clinton has under- on its 1994 accord with Washington to mined his people and his policies with a stop working on nuclear bombs. It was recklessness and a disregard for America's standing in the world that is monumental and unpardonable.

This is not to equate America's standing with his. Fortunately the country is strong enough and its democracy try is strong enough and its democracy resilient enough to shake off this squalor. But his tardy and grudging admission of wrongdoing in the Oval Office and of his mendacity converts weakoess in foreign policy into potential disaster. He has erased the large margin of error he assigned himself in dealing with threats and challenges abroad.

His plicit will encourage room re-

His plight will encourage rogue regimes in Baghdad, Belgrade, Pyongyang and elsewhere to test his attention to their depredations and his resolve in deterring or punishing those acts. It will encourage allies to resist even more strongly U.S. pressure to do things they do not see as in their interest. On the day Mr. Clintoo spent four

hours dueling with prosecutors over the salacinus details of his relationship with Monica Lewinsky, it was disclosed that the Looney Tunes govern-

By Jim Hoagland

a telling coincidence, pointing up the misallocation of presidential and national attention and energies that the Lewinsky affair has spawned.

In determining their attitude toward Mr. Clinton's fate, the Republican majority in Congress must factor into its actions an increasingly uncertain international environment. Any tempta-tion to stretch ont the president's embarrassment for partisan gain must be swiftly rejected.

Unfortunately, every Clinton re-sponse in upheaval or challenge abroad will now be filtered through the Lewinsky prism. Any use of force, or threat of it, can be portrayed by the North Koreans, Iraqis or Serbs as a Clinton attempt to divert attention from his

domestic problems.

And other countries being asked to put resources into international financial rescue packages or enforcement operations will hardly be inspired now by Mr. Clinton's concept of sacrifice.
The president has shown himself to be

It does not matter who they are, or what position of national trust they occupy. He has become a living Win-ston Smith, the George Orwell character who in the climactic scene of "1984" begs his persecutors to "Do it to Julia," his beloved, if that means he will be spared their threat of caging

him with rats. Madeleine Albright put her credibility on the line for Mr. Clinton on Jan. 23. The secretary of state told the American public that he had assured the cabinet that "the allegations are completely untrue," and that she be-lieved him. "The president is focused on what he has to do," she said.

That unfortunately was no more true than were Mr. Clinton's statements to the cabinet about Monica. Mrs. Albright's testimony, as the first woman secretary of state, was particularly useful that day to the president's strategy of denial and delay against charges of sexual misconduct. She has shown herself to be above all a loyalist to the

But that loyalty is not reciprocated. As he did with Warren Christopher on Bosnia and other issues, Mr. Clinton has burned Mrs. Albright and tarnished her reputation — not for national gain, but for his own political viability.

Mr. Clinton made sure to be photographed with his national security adviser, Sandy Berger, just before he went into Monday's testimony. Again, the point was to tell the public that Mr. Clinton is "focused" on the nation's business and that other, malicious forces try to pull him away from it. But the photograph of that brief session with Mr. Berger was in fact nothing more than a measure of Mr. Clinton's desperation and distraction, and of his willingness to use foreign policy as a shield when useful.

Allen She

More telling than the photo: On Toesday, when Mr. Clinton either made or fielded op to a dozen telephone calls at the White House to discuss the deepest moment of crisis in his presidency, he did not speak to any foreign leader. "He didn't feel the need to do that on that day," White House spokesman loe Lockhart told me.

Rill Clinton has constaled.

Bill Clinton has created a dysfunc-tional cabinet that has no reason to believe or trust him again, and no credibility in asking others to do so. He must urgently acknowledge and fix that problem, or step aside and let others whose loyalty is clearly focused on the national interest take charge of a dannting foreign policy agenda.

The Washington Post.

Look at What's Happening to Russia Under 'Reforms'

By Stephen F. Cohen

NEW YORK — As Russia's economic collapse spirals out of control, rarely if ever has American discourse about that country been so uncaringly and dangerously in conflict with reality.

With its endless ideological mantra of a purported "tran-sition from communism to free market capitalism," almost all U.S. government, media and academic commentary on Russia's current troubles is premised on two profoundly wrong assumptions: that the problem is essentially a financial crisis, and that the remedy is faster and more resolute application of the "reform" policies that Presi-dent Boris Yeltsin has pursued since 1991.

Treating Russia's agony as merely a matter of bolstering a faltering stock market, banking system and currency with more

Western financial bailouts — is like rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic. Rnssia's underlying problem is an unprecedented, all-encom-passing economic catastropbe - a peacetime economy that has been in a process of relentless destruction for oearly

GDP has fallen by at least balf, and according to one re-port by as much as 83 percent, capital investment by 90 per-cent, meat and dairy livestock herds by 75 percent. Except for energy, the country now pro-duces very little. Most coo-sumer goods, especially in large cities, are imported.

So great is Russia's economic and thus social catastrophe that we must now speak of another unprecedented develophudgetary austerity and tax col-lection, ruble devaluation and 20th century country.

When the infrastructures of production, technology, science, transportation, heating and sewage disposal disintegrate; when tens of millions of people do not receive earned salaries, some 75 percent of society lives below or barely above the subsistence level, and at least 15 million people are actually starving; when male life expectancy has plunged to 57 years, malnutrition has become the

norm among schoolchildren, once eradicated diseases are again becoming epidemic, and basic welfare provisions are dis-appearing; when even highly educated professionals must grow their own food in order to survive, and well over half the nation's economic transactions are barter—all this, and more, is indisputable evidence of a tragic

transition backward to a pre-

Even if economic growth Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal vere miraculously to resume, than to the neo-liberal monet-Russia would need decades to regain what it has lost in the 1990s, and nothing can retrieve the millions of lives already cut short by the "transition."

Indeed, as a careful statistical study by Professor Stephen Shenfield of Brown University shows, an even greater and pos-sibly inescapable economic and social disaster is rapidly ap-

proaching.
Why call this "reform," as does virtually every American commentator? Certainly, very few Russians any longer do so, except to curse Mr. Yeltsin and his policies, especially those long and zealously promoted by the Clinton administration.

Russian economists and politicians across the spectrum nation - ones more akin to ternational Herald Tribune.

arist orthodoxies of the U.S. State and Treasury departments, the IMF, the World Bank and legions of Western advisers, which have done so much to abet Russia's calamity. But when President Bill Clin-

ton goes to Moscow in early September, he will no doubt tell President Yeltsin publicly, as he has often in the past and as Vice President Al Gore did when he visited in July, "Stay the course!" For a great many Russians, it will mean that America welcomes what has happened to their country and does not care about their ruined lives.

The writer is professor of Russian studies and history at New York University and author are now desperately trying to of the forthcoming book "Reformulate alternative economic policies that might save their used this comment to the In-

For East Timor's Sake, Don't Push Jakarta Too Hard

By James Clad

multiple economic and political problems bave produced a fleeting chance to deal decisively with the country's most chronic international embarrassment, East Timor. But the Timor émigré community, its friends in the U.S. Congress and the territory's former ruler, Portugal, must give Indonesia enough "face" in extricate itself from a disastrous experiment in Asian colonialism.

'AKARTA — Indooesia's

The recent joint communiqué from Indonesia and Portugal on East Timor is an important step toward resolving a dispute that began when Indonesian armed forces invaded the territory in December 1975.

East Timor's many partisans, and the Portuguese themselves, still find it galling to indulge the Indonesians. The behavior of Indonesia's military and intelligence services in East Timor has frequently been appalling.

But there are strong reasons for flexibility. Among the most important is the fact that Indonesia's new president, B. J. Habibie, is weak and cannot agree to outright immediate independence for East Timor. He would not survive criticism that

As Indonesia reels under the impact of deepening recession and poverty, resentment is huilding against foreigners and against foreign governments seeking in capitalize on Indone-

sia's present weakness. Former President Subarto, who was forced to resign in May, sanctioned the takeover of East Timor. His departure opens the way for a workable solution to the problem. But Western diplomats say the crisis in Indonesia means that Mr. Habibie cannot keep the window open for long.

He has offered extensive pro-Timor. At first glance the idea looks a lot like a Foreign Ministry plan rejected by Mr. Suharto in 1995. Mr. Habibie says Indonesia would retain only defense, foreign affairs and monetary responsibilities in the territory. Foreign Minister Ali Alatas told me that Australia, Japan and the United States all accept the sincerity of Mr. Habibie's offer.

Most important, perhaps, Mr.

he had yielded to separatist Habibie says his autonomy pro-pressure. Habibie says his autonomy pro-posal should be taken "as a basis for discussion." But Portugal's long years of opposition to annexation of its colony have entrenched intransigence in Lisbon's approach to a negotiated settlement.

The mood in the U.S. Congress .also favors extracting maximum mileage from an Indonesia overwhelmed by crisis. The issue fits the congressional morality play of victims and If only it were that simple

No single voice speaks for the disputed territory's estimated 750,000 inhabitants. East Timor's Roman Catholic bishop and Nobel Peace laureate Carlos Belo welcomes Mr. Habibie's approach. He under-stands the risk of a backlash if East Timor gains too much too soon. Even the imprisoned East Timor independence leader, Xanana Gusmão, sees this.

But strident émigré groups, from the safety of Australia, Portugal and the United States, urge outright rejection of any autonomy proposal, even as a starting point for talks. And the territory's "assimilationists" bible, a civilian, does not surtion by extreme separatists.

Most difficult of all, Portugal still intends to assert its formal status as the territory's only legal overseer. But the Portuguese government does not fully understand the dangerous forces at play in Indonesia today, and how they limit Mr.

Habibie's options.

Meanwhile, Portugal's fellow members in the European Union, deeply worried by In-donesia's problems, are fed up with Portuguese posturing.
After visiting East Timor recently, EU ambassadors wrote a private report sharply critical of isbon's recent diplomacy.

An increasing number of In-donesians would gladly walk away from their "27th province" if a face-saving formula could be found.

The unraveling in recent weeks of East Timor's social fabric mirrors the gathering distress elsewhere in the Indonesian archipelago. In Dili, East Timor's capital, vendettas and vigilantism have begun to fill the vacuum of weakening Indonesian control.

Thousands of poor Indonesian migrants who have moved into the territory since 1975 have fled in terror. Factional enmity among East Timor clans and families is rife.

For the United States, the most important reason for giving Mr. Habibie face over East Timor is the need to contain Indonesia's crisis. If Mr. Ha-

(those accepting Indonesian vive in office, chances are that control) now fear violent evic- another military figure will another military figure will come to power. Any army leader will probably be determined to maintain national unity, and extremely reluctant to risk it by

making autonomy concessions. Even if Mr. Habibie remains president, granting immediate independence for predominantly Christian East Timor would stoke a backlash from the Muslim majority. Millions of Catholics - many of them ethnic Chinese, who have borne the brunt of recent riots - live elsewhere in Indonesia.

In this sensitive environment, the Clinton administration should urge a policy of realism on all parties. At the very least, real autonomy for East Timor is on offer. Virtual independence probably lies just a little further shead. To push for it now is unwise.

The writer, professor of Asian studies at Georgetown University in Washington, is a former correspondent for the Far Eastern Economic Review in Southeast Asia. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Letters intended for publi-cation should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of un-solicited manuscripts

For Iran and America to Make Up TEW YORK — In Paris By Barry Rosen

about two weeks ago, I had dinner with Ahbas Abdi, a prominent political columnist for the Iranian newspaper Salam, who was jailed in 1993 for several months for criticizing the Iranian government. A few years earlier he had been one of the students who led the takeover of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and was directly responsible for my wretched 444 days as a

hostage.

Mr. Abdi and I disagreed about many issues, including the morality of taking hostages in general and Iranian justifications for that incident in particular. Nevertheless, we did converse - as private citizens, not as revolutionary and diplomat. And we shook hands, after a

debate at Unesco headquarters, something I had believed unlikely ever in happen. Our personal meetings were emblematic of what relations between the United

States and Iran might be-

Mr. Abdi, who is now in his

tahlish the rule of law are fighting others who are intent on preventing change. He did not and could not apologize to me in public.

Still, we spent hours together arguing, laughing and exchanging pleasantries. He expressed profound apologies for the pain my family and I suffered during the hard days of my captivity. And I, in turn, paid my respects to him for making that difficult statement of remorse.

So why did I want to meet with a man who I knew had caused such trauma to so many? I sensed that the time had come to turn the page on that period in our nations' history so that we could move on m a new relationship. Mr. Abdi and I took the first

baby steps on the long road toward reconciliation. The critical question is what it will take to get American and Iranian negotiators to sit down The answer is that it will foresight and courage. The al-ternative is interminable confrontation.

The solution is no less urgent for being obvious: The favorite myths of both countries must be deflated Americans must acknow-

ledge that the Iranian revo-Intion's violent anti-Americanism was rooted in real injuries to the Iranian people. and that Iran has abandoned much of its radicalism in the past nine years. The Iranian leaders and people must modi-fy their hlack-and-white view of the United States and of the world in general.

I like to think I am not naive about problems confronting Washington and Tehran. think our relationship will develop when we start to see people, not symbols. If we are to build a bridge, it will almost inevitably have to start there.

The writer, one of 52 Americans held hostage in Iran from 1979 to 1981, is executive director of public affairs for Teachers College at Columbia University. He conearly 40s, lives in a country take what peacemaking has al- tributed this comment to The where people who want to es- ways taken: bonest reflection, New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Latin Rebel Dies WASHINGTON — The Amer-

ican Minister at Guatemala telegraphs that General Morales, the leader of the recent revolutionary movement, was captured and died on his way to the prison at San Sebastian. General Morales retreated to the mountains and took refuge in a cave, where he was captured. He had been without food for some time and was ill from hunger, fatigue and exposure. His death ends the revolution.

1923: Griffith Film

PARIS — The order ending the showing of the Griffith film "The Birth of a Nation," issued by the Paris Prefecture of Police, had a prompt sequel when M Lecocq, who owns the French rights to the film, declared that he will take steps to appeal against the decision. Several protests were received as soon

as the picture was on view. The stopping of the film follows on. the recent feeling over American prejudice against negroes of French citizenship, negroes.... being shown in the film.

1948: Mass Production

BIRMINGHAM, England — Sixteen thousand workers were on strike in a dispute over the attempted introduction of Anierican mass production methods. in the Longbridge plant of the Austin Motor Car Company. Austin is one of the leading firms in the national dollar-carning drive for economic recovery. The dispute began over rates of ... pay based on the speed at which the machine, a multiple gear cutter, could be operated. One worker assigned to the machine averaged 280 operations in an 81/2-hour shift. The management suggested a rate fixed at 330 operations a shift. The workers

rejected the proposal.



A Baggir

14

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A.M. 51.

Clinton Should Take the Honorable Course and Resign

PARIS — The honorable thing for Bill Clinton to do now is to

I do not expect him to resign. I cannot imagine it unless a powerful current of public opinion were to build up, demanding that he do so. and I scarcely expect that to hap-

Nonetheless his resignation would restore the notion of hon-orable conduct to American public life. The president would have replaced his equivocations, evasions and lies with a resonant act of moral

responsibility.

He would have made an underiable claim upon public respect. He would have established a demand on history to be treated as the serious person he has claimed to be, who accepts, as he said in his talk Monday night, responsibility for

His resignation would, during the remaining two years of his elected term, lift from Washington elected term, lift from Washington irresponsibility. As the vast ma-the missing coarsening and cor jority of Americans recognize, if rupting public life and discourse, It private behavior is to be placed would terminate the Washing under public scrutiny in the United ton obsession, with presiden, States, and lies about sexual contial scandal that currently freezes

By William Pfaff

and inspires foreign derision. Resignation would dispatch derision. Kenneth Starr back to that underworld of poliocal hate from which a committee of the federal judiciary summoned him four years ago.

It could free the Washington

press corps from its corrupting complicity in the debasement of national debate. Resignation would recompense the Democratic Party for Mr. Clinton's abuse of its trust.

The president told the public Monday night that he "must put right" the wrongs for which he accepts responsibility, and be said that he "is ready to do whatever is necessary" to rectify the damage he has done. Resignation is the way to do both.

presidential impeachment, as everyone knows. The problem does not lie in the offense but in the

safe. Certainly no one in Wash-

ington is safe. However that is exactly what has bappened, and the consequences of this have to be assumed.

Monday night did not end the affair. Mr. Starr will write his report of the grand jury's findings. and from all that be has said so far, and from what is reported to have been the president's refusal to sup-ply certain details to the grand jury as unacceptable intrusions into his privacy, it must be assumed that Mr. Starr will present Congress with findings that invite formal action against Mr. Clinton for ob-

struction of justice or perjury. Thus Mr. Starr will have "won" o do both.

— indeed, has won. But for the Sexual infidelity is no matter for Republican Party, this victory by Kenneth Starr leads toward electoral defeat. The president may be the most bumiliated public figure in the country, but Mr. Starr is the

most despised. tial scandal that currently freezes duct are to be prosecuted as perjury gress take action on Mr. Starr's wing conspirators' (who indeed policy initiative and decision, or obstruction of justice, no one is findings, given the public's demoneración, have only been players in a

strated tolerance for Mr. Clinton's scenario dictated by presidential behavior and its approval of his economic policies? Would doing so nor do more harm than good to the Republicans in November's congressional elections? On this political terrain Mr. Clinton could

very well "win." However, the cost to the country of going on with the affair is un-

The cost to the nation has been unacceptably high.

acceptably bigh. The cost is paid to reputation, influence and political power abroad, in the inability of overnment to decide and act, and the damage done to the self-

respect of Americans themselves. The Monica Lewinsky affair is the farce that completes the destruction of what set out to be a reform presidency. The author of Once the matter is placed before the farce is the same man who set Congress, the battle becomes political rather than legal. Would ConStarr, and Mrs. Clinton's "right-

stained dress) he thought he

He could have confessed to

long-standing addiction to

reckless sex, perhaps while

say believe to be the truth: "!

thought Mr. Starr's investi-

was way out of line, and I

sbould have said so at the

had better tell the truth.

ebaracter. The failure is personal. It is also undoubtedly a consequence of Mr. Clinion's generation having eagerly loosened society from the moorings of its parents' America, while putting liole that is serious in

Under Ronald Reagan a restor-ation of values was celebrated, but this proved illusioo. In fact, a nihilistic ideological materialism was set loose. Mr. Clioton, a modem economic determinist ("free markets produce democracy"), is a product of that, too. However, a generation is not a responsible ac-

tor, only the individual within it. Mr. Clinton is a citizen of the America of celebrity culture, selffulfillment and self-indulgence. and ideologically endorsed greed. He cannot say that he is a victim of his society, since he knew what he

was doing.
What remains available to him is the redemptive honorable act. astonishing but edifying to all. What if public opinion were to demand

> International Herald Tribune. Les Angeles Times Syndicate

there might be physical proof cided to deny the affair — bad boy's heartbroke of that perjury (the infamous confident that Monica would morse at being caught.

away with it.'

than he is now?

can satisfy

gation of my personal sex life listen to Monday night's

ontset. In fact, though, I learned his lesson and would

deny it, too. I'd still be deny-

ing it if I thought I could get

confession like any of these

would have left him better off

affair happened and that Pres-

ident Clinton tried to cover it

up after the investigation was

under way (not just the lies, but the returned gifts and

wbo knows what else), there

is no confession unaccom-

panied by a resignation that

the-fact advisers miss. no

matter how on the mark the

particulars of their criticism

speecb and believe I was

listening to a guy who had

may be. I, for one, could not gotten away with it.

This is the point his after-

Can anyone believe that a

Once you believe that the

Expressing Contrition Isn't a Simple Affair

By Deborah Tannen

OS ANGELES -- Apolwomeo more than to men as a show of contrition and as a prerequisite for forgiveness. This assumption seemed to

MEANWHILE

drive the expectation that President Bill Clinton should offer an apology.

But at the same time, many people — perhaps more men than women — resist apologizing because it puts them in a position of weakness that could be exploited in the fu-

ways to express contritioo, such as "I'm sorry" and "I regret," that stop short of apology — just as the president did in his remarks Mon-

We live now in what I call an argument culture, in which everything is cast as a meta-

And what should we do

Call me inconsistent. I think

Mr. Clinton has, in the conduct

of his office, been well above

average. I do not believe the

nation or its economy would

be improved by his removal

for what is, at bottom, sexual

impropriety. O.K., be lied about the sexual impropriety,

but cheating on your wife and

lying about it are, to my mind,

On the other hand, I suspect that at least some of his

sleazy behavior stems from

the fact that be has always

Is there some compromise

between throwing a good

president out of office and

letting an incorrigible get

one offense, not two.

away with it again?

with this bad boy? The con-

impeachment.

In this climate, apologizing Logies are very important might indeed weaken the to many people — perhaps to president in the eyes not only president in the eyes not only of American citizens but also of potential enemies or ne-

gonators in other countries. To the extent that the presideot is the country's leader. many citizens themselves no doubt prefer that he maintain a stance of strength - even of belligerence, ever the fighter.

An apology is a ritual that works best when it is matched: I apologize for my part of the blame, but I expect you to apologize for

Clinton as deserving blame That is wby many of us find for his behavior, they also see the independent counsel as deserving blame for boundmg the president and divert-ing his (and Americans') attendon from affairs of state to what they believe should be a

private matter. Yet it seems unlikely that Kenneth Starr would have responded to a presidential apology with a matching one and I'm sorry I put you in an impossible position by subpoening everyone you ever spoke to"). This may also bave contributed to the presideot's reluctance to offer

Yet the president's statement had many of the crucial sistent response, I suppose, is elements of an apology. He to call for his resignation or admitted fault ("It was wrong," "a critical lapse in judgment," "a personal fail-ure on my part"). And be declared his intention to make amends ("I must put it right, and I am prepared to do whatever it takes to do

> And focusing on anger at the independent counsel's investigation, while offending some critics, probably reflected not only the president's own sentiments but those of a majority of American citizens.

The writer, a professor of linguistics at Georgeown University, is the author most recently of "The Argument -Culture." She contributed this comment to the Los Angeles Times.

What to Do With America's Bad Boy President: Can't We Compromise?

WASHINGTON — My up the opportunity to apol-friend was, as she put it, ogize "in a way that touched appalled. 'It was the most pathetic effort to apologize and say 'I'm sorry' I've ever heard. And the worst part about it is that the country had told him exactly what to fathers, whatever - in our

Her call was a part of a drumbeat of expression I've Harch, the Utah Republican been hearing since President Bill Clinton's almost-confes- ciary Committee, were furision that he really had been ous that he combined his coninvolved in a sexual relation with "that woman." If only he had said it right.

ogize "in a way that touched people's hearts and minds ... to show us that he understood the pain we've suffered ... to speak to those of us who've had weak men - husbands,

Others, like Senator Orrin who heads the Senate Judifession with an attack on Kenneth Starr, the indepen-

Monica Lewinsky.

dent counsel whose case before and was now deter-My friend was angry that against Mr. Clinton seems to mined to tell the truth?

President Clinton had passed have come down to lying — They all would hav

By William Raspberry and perhaps urging others to believe that if Mr. Clinton had former White House intern,

Still others complained about the president's apparent inability to suppress his "Slick Willie" persona. His denial of a sexual relationship was, be said, "technically accurate" - how? - and misleading but not perjury. Why, they insisted, conIdn't be just come out and say he had lied

lie - about the affair with a made his confession more contrite, or delivered it more sincerely or refrained from attacking Mr. Starr, then he would have succeeded in putting the scandal behind him.

> He could have said he had Paula Jones grand jury --- not

Ironically, Mr. Clinton burt himself by giving one of the most honest speeches he has ever delivered. He is furious, less at himself than at the fact that his foes finally have him in a corner. He is angry that the combination of the Paula Jones lawsuit

him to admit what has been obvious. Little contrition came through in his speech; the anger did. The problem is

actually had the insolence to put the licans would prefer that this matter go blame for the spectacle of the past seven away and that he serve out his term. But

— E.J. Dionne Sr. in The Washington Post.

He could have said that bis anger over Mr. Starr's toopersonal investigacion had

insisting that the foolhardiness never spilled over into I don't believe it for a his official duties. minute. Think of the possihilities: riured himself before the rohbed him of his sense of proportion and led him to

drag the country through long months of needless political to mention that he had told a bald-faced lie to the American nined to tell the truth? people — about Ms. Lewin-They all would have yon sky, and now that it appeared crises. anguisb and consotutional Or be could bave said what most of those who are complaining about what he did

ident believe he owes them an apology.' He is right about one thing: This has to they would also like to be able to trust him. At the moment, many who bear him

thought there was no way he could prove a thing, so I de-wife. What I heard was the

that many people who admire Mr. Clinton and think he has been a good pres-

no ill will don't think they can.

Weapons Fund

Regarding "Stop This Splurging on Weapons" (Opinion, Aug. 10) by Oscar

This was not a firing offense. One of the to the United Nations.

senators loudest in threatening impeach-ment hails from a state where The Washington Post counts 30,000 polygamists. effective for the United Nations to im- its citizens. pose a tax on the weapons trade itself. I think this might provide a more con-

tinuous stream of revenue than "good-LAETITIA DE KANTER.

Regarding "Plagued Heolth Core System" (Aug. 11):

JEFFREY HANSELL. Luxembourg.

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Clinton: Untrustworthy

President Bill Clinton's job approval ratings remain extremely high. The pubprosecutor's intention to get personal. lic does not want him to resign or be impeached. Among other things, it does not want Kenneth Starr deciding who will be president. The high poll raings Presidential Insolence may actually accoming in the Cintons Presidential Insolence giddy sense in the Canage way was a like the canage fools not

Behind the numbers, however, is the him his cabinet secretaries who vouched widespread realization that this is a man for him, his congressional and media who has disgraced himself and his office allies who defended him, but everyone and who cannot be trusted, even by his

- Bob Herbert, commenting in The New York Times.

Scaring Off Candidates

In the modern media environment, nothing is private, sacred or beyond traducing. The collateral damage from the forced Mr. Clinton to end this charace. Clinton scandals will include future presidents, and the Americans who will be less adequately led, because of the cul-ture of scandal that the media cultivate.

There will be capable candidates who will not risk the exposure of a campaign because they, or their spouse or children, or their brother-in-law, did something weak or fallible or craven.

The concentric circles prescribing just what is acceptable and what is controversial in a politician's private life just got a lot smaller, and the smaller those circles get the more people they rule out from consideration for leadership. America's their weapons spending and contribute their weapons spending and contribute their "peace dividend" to a global de
Regarding "Plagues presidents pick thousands of job-holders. Disappointed but not surprised by Mr. Clinton's priapic predilections, I remain unconvinced by his enemies' arguments.

Kenneth Starr's tactics and political egory of rogue prosecutor. Mr. Starr

gave a speech two years ago in Detroit Yes, This Has to End raising public questions about Mr. Clinton's "spousal integrity." To me, that was a fatal giveaway of the Whitewater - David Nyhan in The Boston Globe.

Presidential Insolence ("politically inspired") and a special prosecutor intent on getting him ("This just of his staff who went out and lied for hurt too many innocent people") forced him; his cabinet secretaries who vouched connected with presidential politics who had been engaged in the "war" declared

THE ODITATIONS

by the White House in defense of a man

blame for the "spectacle of the past seven months" on Ken Starr. Ken Starr happens to be the one man in America who finally

— Charles Krauthammer

who all the while knew it was all a lie.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

will" contributions could assure.

Montreux, Switzerland.

militarization fund.

The idea of such a fund is wonderful, but would this plan really reduce the lucrative weapons trade and would nations make voluntary contributions? The United States does not even pay its does not e the United Nations. in the early 1990s, when they tried to reshape the way the nation takes care of

INTERNATIONAL PORTRAIT PAINTING COMPETITION

ATATURK ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY



PORTRAIT PAINTING COMPETITION

'Atatürk on the 75th Anniversary of the Republic of Turkey' Turkey's leading daily newspaper Milliyet, is sponsoring a portrai painting competition: Ataturk on the 75th Anniversary of the Republic of Turkey

"Atatirk on the 75th Anniversary of the Hepublic of Turkey" Following the preliminary assessment of all competition entries, the paintings will be published in Milliyet in full colour and also on the Milliyet web site.

The winners of this competition, held to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Republic of Turkey, will be elected by vota from the Turkest public. Winning portraits will be sold at auction, organized by the Kenan Evren Foundation. Winners will receive monies from the sales according to international portres.

from the sales according to international norms.

Entrants should apply to their local Turksh Embassy or Consulata for information on Ataturk or his photographs. Conditions of entry are as follows: Portrait dimensions - 50 cm x 70 cm or 54 cm x 73 cm. 2 The painting must be painted in oil on canvas.

• First Prize

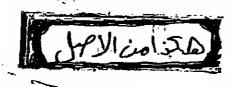
Second Prize

A 15 cm x 20 cm printed photograph along with a transparency of the peinting should be sent directly to Yapi Kredi Vakif Binasi Z6, Valikonagi Caddesi, Nisantasi 80220, Istanbul, Turkey. Tel: +90 212 234 1750, Fax: +90 212 246 0666, E-mail: sarol@bline.net.tr The final deadline for the competition is Thursday, 1st Octobe The follow US \$15,000

US \$10,000

US\$ 5,000

(Participating artists can enter more than one painting.)



Leisure

Urbino, Gem of the Renaissance

Federico's Palace Epitomizes World of Refinement

By Roderick Conway Morris International Herald Tribune

RBINO, Italy - If the ideal Renaissance court ever existed it was surely the one presided over by Federico II da Montefeltro in the secood half of the 15th century.

Baldassare Castiglione, the leading contemporary arbiter of etiquette and gracious living, certainly thought so, and set his international best-seller "The Bonk of the Courtier" in Urbino, this gem of a city hidden away amid a central Italian picture-book landscape of rolling hills, a score of miles inland from the Adriaoc coast.

Duke Federico, who ruled from 1444 to 1482, was a formidable warrior who financed the enormous palace that still rises with majestic grace over Urbino and the refined pursuits that it was fa-mous for by hiring himself and his private army out as mercenaries. But he was equally adept in the arts of peace, and had himself portrayed in full armor calmly studying one of the books in his vast collection (wearing the Order of the Garter conferred oo him by King Edward IV of England, his renown having spread hy then throughout the courtly world).

Indeed, a story in Castiglione's "Courtier," epitomizing the philosophy of Federico's Urbino, tells of the cultured lady, who finding herself entertaining a boorish military man, invites him to dance, is refused, so invites him to listen to music, and a series of other pleasant pastimes, all of which are similarly rejected. Finally, she asks in exasperation what does he do. And on receiving the reply, "I fight," advises him, that because there are currently oo wars or fight-ing to be done, he should have himself well greased and put in storage in some armory until he is next required, lest he get any more rusty than he already is.

Federico's palace, which Castiglione described as "a city in the form of a palace," impresses not only by its sheer size, but also by the airy elegance and variety of environments it embraces:

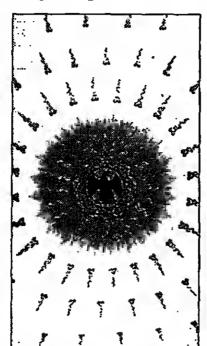
from gardens, grand halls and lofty corridors, to intimate rooms and balconies to which the bousehold and its guests could withdraw to enjoy private pleasures. The most beautiful is Federico's own studiolo, or study, with its wonderful trompe l'oeil marquetry paneling - illustrating every conceivable literary, musical, artisoc and scientific pursuit — designed by Bonicelli and Francesco di Giorgio.

The palace was begun by the Dal-matian architect Luciano Laurana, hut continued by the great Sienese builder, sculptor, painter and hydraulic and milscupior, painter and hydratine and mil-itary engineer Francesco di Giorgio Mar-tini, who entered the Duke's service in 1472. He strengthened old castles and constructed new fortifications in Fed-erico's domains, which Federico in-creased threefold during his reign — including San Leo, the vertiginous aerie atop a dramatic pinnacle and the remote strooghold from which the Momefeltro family had emerged in the Middle Ages.

When Francesco came on the scene, much of the external appearance of the palace was as it is today. But be transformed it inside, "burrowing like a mole into the existing structures, completely remolding and reordering the interior,' in the words of the architectural historian Manfredo Tafuri, and creating the range of spaces that make the palace such a harmonious experience.

HE completion of the colonnaded central courtyard was a particular triumph in the revival of classical architecture, and the decorative inscription running round it, enumerating Federico's titles and recording his achievements in peace and war.
Francesco's "burrowing" also led to

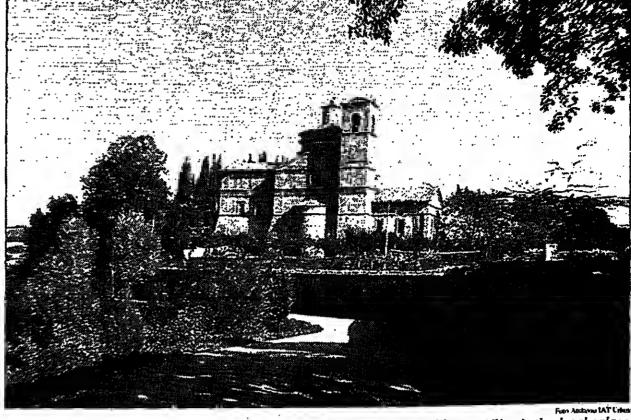
the construction of a huge subterranean area with cisterns, water filters, laundries, an icehouse (into which, during the winter, snow was shoveled via a shaft from the hanging gardens above), mini-ature Roman baths, kitchens, stables and waste-disposal chutes. Refined to the last architectural and functional detail and administered according to a set of household rules drawn up by the duke, the



palace at Urbino was oot only, as Castiglione wrote, "to the opinion of many men, the fairest that was to be found in all Italy," but also the most comfortable, saluhrious and efficiently run.

The palace is now the National Gallery of the Marches, the regioo of which Urbino is still the cultural capital, and distributed through its apartments is a rich collection of paintings; Piero della Francesca's "Flagellation of Christ" and "Madonna of Senigallia"; Paolo Ucello's "The Profanation of the Madonna of Senigallia". Host''; Raphael's "Portrait of a Gentlewoman," to name hut a few. Here, too, is the futuristic "Ideal City," one of the most clusive of Renaissance images, whose painter and precise meaning remain a mystery.

The collection is strong in works from the 14th and early 15th century, and this year the palace is offering a fine special show, "The Flowering of the Late Gothic in the Marches," which



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San Bernardino Church and mausoleum of Federico da Montefeltro, right; library ceiling in the ducal palace.

continoes until Oct. 25. It also features other contemporary works from this region oo loan from several countries, and books and fahrics.

BARE GLIMPSES Among the most interesting of the painters represented are the local artist Gentile da Fabriano, none of whose pictures now remain in the Marches, with four panels oo show here, and the brothers Lorenzo and Jacobo Salimbeni, who also executed fascinating frescoes - a tumultuous crucifixion scene and a sequence illustrating the life of John the Baptist - at the Oratory of St. John, near the palace.

This late-Gothic world was the one into which Federico was born - a world of medieval knightly assumptions, unquestioned pieties and sumptuous dec-orative surfaces — before he set off on the peregrinations of his youth, during which he drank deep of the New Learning and received the education that was

to make him an ootstanding patron of innovative artistic and literary forms.

The Renaissance interiors and classical features of the valace, with its miniature Temple of the Muses and Roman baths, seem an age away from these Late Gothic visions, although one feature of the building — the anomalous but charming twin fairy-castle towers may perhaps have represented for the soldier Federico a oostalgic backward glance in a Machiavellian age to the medieval chivalric epoch.

On a picturesque hill visible from the city is the gloriously positioned and per-fectly proportioned San Bernardino Church Designed by Francesco di Giorgio, it is also the mausoleum of Federico and his son Guidobaldo. Its serene and uncluttered interior brings to mind those of Palladio and, as has now been recognized, Francesco di Giorgio had a considerable influence on his 16th-century Venetian successor. The original altarpiece here was Piero della Francesca's famous scene of Federico kneeling before the Madonna and Child and Saints (oow in the Brera Gallery in Milan). Guidobaldo died without children in

1508 and, after various vicissimdes, the dukedom was annexed to the Papal States in 1631. Later, the cootents of Federico's stupendous library, which was probably greater than that of any European university at the time, were carted off to the Vatican. Happily for Urbino, shortly before Guidobaldo died he laid the foundations of Urbino's own university. There are now some 25,000 students, as against a local population of about 15,000, giving the place a young and lively profile.

Thus the spirit of Federico and Guid-obaldo's Urbino lives on in what is undoobtedly one of the most beautiful seats of learning in the world, and one of the most agreeable places to spend time



Savoring the Myriad Delights of Istanbul

By Sherry Marker

STANBUL -- My busband and I lew from Athens to Istanhul one Saturday morning in June, hailed a cab and joined the dense traffic burtling into Istanbul at 80 miles an

We boped to do all we had left undooe on our fast visit, in 1994, when my husband's appendix had ruptured the day after we arrived. Then, we had spent most of our visit not at the Pierre Loti Hotel, a five-minute walk from Haghia Sophia and the Blue Mosque in the Sultanahmet district of the old city, Stamboul, but at the American Hospital.

Now, back at the Pierre Loti, we dumped our bags in our small, hright room and headed out onto Divanyolu Caddesi, the main street in Sultanahmet. The Cennet Restaurant, where musicians drum up husiness oo the sidewalk, was new, but the little shoe repair shop where I had had a sandal fixed on the last trip was still in business in the courtyard of the Atik Ali Pasha Mosque.

Less comfortingly, merchants trawling for customers in the vast courtyard of the Blue Mosque still wanted us to follow them and look at "just one" rug. and at Haghia Sophia, the massive church huilt hy Emperor Justinian in the sixth century, tour huses still disgorged battalions of weary sightseers.

We were lucky: On earlier, pre-appendicitis visits, we'd "done" Istan-bul's hig four — Haghia Sophia, the Blue Mosque and the Topkapi and Dolmabalice Palaces. Now, we were here to take in this city that bridges the Bosporus and two continents. We knew that much of what we wanted to do would be free visiting oeighborhood street bazaars and the Grand and Spice Bazaars, strolling in Yildiz Park overlooking the Bosporus, or along the Golden Horn. Much else would be very cheap — most mosques suggest only a modest voluntary donation and even famous monuments usually charge no more than \$2 admission.

THE BIG SPLURGE

Giddy at the prospect of so much pleasure for so little money, we decided to splurge, and slipped into the cool, green courtyard of the Yesil Ev Hotel, oce of a oumber of small, reasonably priced botels in nicely restored Ottoman houses in the Old City for a glass of raki, the Turkish firewater that makes every other drink seem a delicate aperitif. Then we headed out to the Sultanahmet Koftecisi, a two-story restaurant that has been serving grilled meatballs since 1920, and still draws a largely Turkish crowd in the middle of touristic Stamboul. Little boys in white shirts and trousers. all wearing sequined crowns and furfringed red and white capes, feasted with their families to celebrate the successful completioo of the ritual circumcision ceremony that Turkish Moslim boys undergo before puberty. Our bill, for ayran (a yogurt drink), bean and lettuce salads, and the succulent meatballs topped with the fiery green peppers we've always suspected could deal the copp de grace to an appendix, was \$6.80 for two.

That night, unable to sleep as I listened to the call to prayer from nearby mosques, I got up and peered out the window, watching seaguils soar above the steam rising from the domes of the Cemberlitas Bath, where I had been



Haghia Sophia, built in the sixth century by the Emperor Justinian, looms beyond a park in Istanbul's old city.

steamed and scrubbed in 1994. As I watched the gulls. I remembered that on our flight from Athens to Istanhul, I had discovered that the Greeks oo board were en route to a Sunday service at the Patriarchate, the headquarters of the Greek Orthodox Church that resolutely remained in Istanhul after the fall of Con-stantinople in 1453. Both the Greek Patriarch and the Archhishop of Athens and All Greece would officiate and, I was assured, I would see "wooderful things" if I went. So, after attacking the Pierre Loti's breakfast buffet, we grabbed a cab to Fener, once a prosperous Greek district that is oow a backwater of twisting streets with remains of formerly elegant wooden

mansions along the Golden Horn.
We slipped into the back of St. George's Church and were enveloped in incense and liturgical chants. Members of the congregation lighted votive candles and kissed holy icons, all the while elbowing their way closer and closer to the front of the church, where the mitered patriarch sat in splendor on an elaborately carved 16th-century wooden throne inlaid with ivory and mother-ofpearl. We crept closer and climbed up on a platform erected near the altar for television crews. There, we watched as chanting clerics in robes and miters stiff with jewels, pearls and embroidery moved through the packed church with icons encased in gold and silver.

COBBLED STREETS After several hours, with the service showing no signs of ending, we left the Greek world of Constantinople, and returned to Turkish Istanbul. We wandered through a maze of cobbled streets, whose only shared characteristic seemed to be that all went steeply uphill, past small, neighborhood mosques and street-side fountains.

Our next day was something of a blur. In rapid succession, we took in the view of the Golden Horn from the terrace of the Mosque of Selim I and visited the small church of St. Saviour in Chora, now the Kariye Camii Museum, whose

brilliantly restored 14th-century mosaics are one of Istanbul's greatest treasures (entrance \$2).

We walked uphill from Kariye Camii, collecting a clutch of small children asking for "bonbons," until we reached the Byzantine defense walls, which once encircled the city. We sat for a while in the shade of the remains of the monumental arcaded Palace of the Porphrygenitos (today called the Tekfur Sarayi).

Later, we sipped glasses of apple tea (\$1.60 for two) on the terrace of the Pierre Loti Café. It is named for the 19th-century French novelist and Turkophile, who spent his time in Istanbul smoking water pipes and suffering unrequited love for the beautiful Turkish woman who inspired him to write the romantic novel "Aziyade."

From the cafe, we walked down the wooded hill through the Eyup Cemetery, where women's graves have marble tombstones carved with a rose for each child, and the men's are topped with the fezzes and turbans indicating their status in life. By now, I was tired. But I staggered on to the Eyup Mosque, the boliest in Istanbul, where we saw the footprint, in marble, that traditioo says Mohammed left at the tomb of his stan-

dard bearer, Eyup Ensari. Over the next few days, I went several times to the Spice Bazzar and the Grand Bazaar, arriving before 9 A.M., when shopkeepers were setting up their wares,

before they began to pursue browsers.

Across the Golden Horn, I went to the Balik Bazaar street market and bought bags of sweet, red cherries for immediate consumption and boxes of Turkish delight candy to take home as presents. At the Military Museum (entrance 60 cents), I listened to the wail of wood and brass instruments while the Mebter Military. band, in bright red uniforms topped with

flowing red robes, marched and sang Laden with sacks of chili pepper and vials of saffron, with my ever-expanding collection of blue glass evil eyes, vital for warding off demons from my computer, I visited first the Cemberlitas (\$15) and then the Cagaloglu (\$20) baths — then, just to make sure that I really did like the Cagaloglu better, returned once more, leaving the last of my epidermis behind. I couldn't resist the Cagaloglu bath attendants who sang as they squeezed pillowcases of warm, soapy water over me, scrubbed me with abrasive bath mitts. kneaded each knuckle and polished the crevices between each toe.

My hushand and I would meet for lunch or dinner, one day shooting the hudget on artichokes, mixed hors d'ocuvres and sea bass at Pandeli's, the marvelous old restaurant overlooking the Spice Bazaar (\$56 for two with two beers each). Another time, we met at Boncuk, one of a series of hole-in-thewall restaurants on an alley off the Balik Bazaar. There, we achieved a personal best in the number of mussels and fluffy fried fish balls we ate (\$14.40 for two with two beers).

N our last day, we bought nickets (\$4.80 for two) and boarded a boat, crowded with Turkish families carrying satchels with picnic food, that crisscrossed the Bosporus, docking briefly at villages to Europe and in Asia. At the last stop, Anadolu Kavagi, we got off and followed a path past cows dozing in the sun, through a small cemetery, to the Byzantine and Genovese fortress that guards the entrance to the Black Sea. There, pionickers, sheep and more cows sprawled in the shade of the ramparts, ignoring the superb view over the Bosporus to-

ward the Black Sea. We strolled downhill, and stopped for mussels at the Doner Midyetava Balik restaurant on a side street off the harbor and, afterward, we sailed back along the Bosporus to Istanbul, to pack our bags for the flight back to Athens.

Sherry Marker, who travels frequently to Turkey and Greece, wrote this for The New York Times.

One's Memorable, Another's Just Dull

By Patricia Wells

ARIS — La Zygotissoire, a small rotisserie restaurant at the edge of the trendy Bastille neighborhood, is perhaps the city's best buy today. Where else can you have a delicious, can't-finish-it-all three-course meal, with coffee, for 80 francs? And the food is not just O.K., it is memorable and inventive.

On the 80-franc (\$13) menu, one might begin with a chicken-wing salad, made up of a quartet of moist, beantifully roasted chicken wings set on a bed of greens; move oo to a faux filet cooked on the rotisserie, and sauced with shallots, then top it off with a dessert of bornemade ice cream or sorbet. A la carte starters include the brochenes de legumes anchoiade, excellent brocbettes of zucchini, tomatoes and eggplant, with a delicately flavored anchovy sauce and a small green salad alongside. Good main courses include a filet of sea bass grilled oo the rotisserie, or a filet of bar, on a bed of Swiss chard greens, served with a round gratin of the celery-like whites of chard.

The wine list offers some offbeat surprises, such as the rarely seen Ladoix, a worthy red from the oorthemmost village of the Cote de Beaune, and almost always a bargain. The restaurant shares ownership with the popular 12th arrondissement bistro. Les Zygomates.

meal io Paris as boring as the one I bad 215-franc dinner menus including the other night at the trendy, and gen- service but not wine.

erally good-huy, Campagne et Provence: The welcome was as chilly as a day in December, the food dull as dishwater and the service amateurish. Walk in with a reservation, suggest you might be seated at that nice sunny table in the window and the head greeter shrugs, suggesting that when he puts people there they always ask to be seated elsewhere. (So when the restaurant is half empty, why not let the customer choose?)

Everyone on the staff (including the chef) seemed to want to be elsewhere. A salad advertised as mesclun was nothing other than a tangle of mixed greens - no herbs, no verve, a few shavings of Parmesan and strips of ham. Equally unimpressive was saffroned rabbit with a "risotto" of epeautre, or "poor man's wheat" -a dish that sounded promising but turned out to be something that might have

come from a packaged TV dinner. Only the wine list — with Alain Brumoot's robust 1994 Madiran Meinjarre — and the wholesome sourdough bread from l'Epi Gaulois in the 14th arrondissement saved the La Zygotissoire, 101 Rue de Char-

onne, Paris 11; tel: 01-40-09-93-05; fax: 01-44-73-46-63. Closed Saturday

lunch and Sunday. Credit card: Visa. 80-franc menu. A la carte, 130 to 160 francs, including service but not wine. Campagne et Provence, 25, Quai de la Tournelle, Paris 5; tel: 01-43-54-05-17; fax: 01-43-29-74-93. Closed Saturday lunch, Sunday, and Monday lunch. Credit card: Visa. 120-It has been a long time since I had a franc lunch menu and 180-franc and

The Mazda MX-5: Still Way Out Front

By Gavin Green

HE Japanese, who generally make the best cars in the world, are often accused of copying not innovating. There have been many theories put forward for this, ranging from their collectivist approach to management (so that individual genius, necessary for revolutionary products, is suppressed) to an acknowledgment that it is better to he second and best, than first and subsequently worst.

This want of innovation is a slur most often thrown by European bosses, occurred to the company to engineer it usually shortly before the Japanese for America, easily the MX-5/Miata's beat them again. It has, after all, taken biggest market. Fiat and Alfa raced the Europeans very much leaves to most often thrown by European bosses, the Europeans very much longer to learn from the Japanese than it took the BMW, further upmarket. So did Lo-American car bosses, possibly because Americans have always been less

Europeans to realize that there was make than its sticker price. still a market for inexpensive roadsters? They'd all cleared out, back in the '70s and early '80s, certain that the future was in mass-produced tin boxes and that sexy, characterful little sports cars — of which European makers were once masters — were as passe as mechanical watches and fountain pens.

WHERE THE COPYING ENDED

Then along came Mazda with the MX-5, or Miata as the Americans call it. Yes, it was a copy - of sorts - of old British and Italian roadsters, similar in concept and style. But that's where the copying ended. Unlike cheap British and Italian roadsters, the Mazda was reliable, didn't rust and didn't leak. It could play the part of day-to-day

transport or it could also be a great sundays and fun-days car. It was a buzz to

drive, as well as to own. Its soccess made Alfa, Fiat, MG, Lotus, Porsche and BMW --- the previous dominators of the genre - look silly. They were off making sedans or sopercars (or in the case of MG, oothing), convinced that nobody wanted a car like the MX-5. Mazda'a sales clearly showed that people did.

So the Europeans quickly jumped back into the market. The MG emblem was dusted off and affixed to a modern, mid-engine baby that everybody loved, never mind that it never back in, too, as did Porsche and tus although, typical of British companies at the time, it forgot to do headstrong and less set in their ways. its sums right. It turned out that the After all, look how long it took the short-lived new Elan cost more to its sums right. It turned out that the

grief, for the simple reason that the al folding arrangement on European Mazda was still a much better valoe. But all good things have to change, and Mazda has just unveiled its new and improved MX-5/Miara.

The body is new, although it looks unmistakably like the old one. The nimble, aided by that snug cabin and the rifle-bolt direct gear-change. You been replaced by everyday mustacheshaped Mazda sedan ware, and the pop-op lights have also been ditched in favor of Mazda corporate-style fixed lights. I prefer the look of the old model, although most of my friends seem to prefer the oew one, citing its smoother, more melted shape.

HASY TO SHE Everyone will prefer the new rear glass window, which replaces the rear plastic screeo. It's easier to see through, and if you live in cold Europe rather than hot California, it's simpler to de-mist in winter. Also, unlike the old, you don't have to unzip it before lowering the roof. That fold-back roof is a brilliantly simple These new-wave European road-sters didn't give the MX-5 any sales field, and miles better than any manu-

The greatest improvement is in the driving experience. Now, there was hardly a lot wrong with the old MX-5 on this front. It was light, fast and still wear an MX-5, rather like a hand wears a glove, but the handling is now even better because the body is stiffer. It steers better, rides better and, most noticeable of all, is more responsive at higher speeds. It now feels more like a track car than ever.

The engines and transmissions are much the same, and the Mazda is still the only inexpensive front-engine/ rear-drive sports car, a huge advantage in driving enjoyment. All the great old roadsters had the same arrangement and, increasingly, so do the best hig-money sports cars.

The oew MX-5 confirms Mazda's primacy in the inexpensive roadster market. It's also the world's most commeodable open-top sports car. It is huge fun, looks great, is as fast as you'll ever oeed to go, handles better than most rivals of triple the price, and is probably the most reliable sports car ever made. Not bad coming from a country where all they can

do is copy.

• Mazda MX-5 (Miata) 1.8i. About \$27,000. Four-cylinder 1839cc engine (1597cc model also available), 140bhp at 6,500 rpm. Rear-wheel drive, five-speed manual transmission. Top speed: 205 kph (127 mph).
Acceleration: 0-100 kph in g.0 seconds. Average fuel coosumptioo: 8.5 liters/100km.

Next: Renault Laguna

Arts. Houston.

Gavin Green is editor in chief of Car magazine.

Partide/Mexico Now: Point of De-

parture." Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago.

Aug. 23: "Intimate Encounters: Love and Domesticity in 18th-Cen-tury France," Museum of Fine

Aug. 23: "Landscape Drawings, 1500-1900." The Getty Center,



Nicolas Cage as the sleazy detective Rick Santoro in De Palma's "Snake Eyes."

SNAKE EYES

Directed by Brian De Palma. Brian De Palma's bot new thriller is a great big juicy goh of apocalyptic paranoia set in a garish Atlantic City hotel and casino called the Millennium on the night a tropical storm named Jezebel is bearing down on the New Jersey coast. The storm, which is upgraded to a hurricane, has arm grazed, her white dress op the excitement surrounding a heavyweight championship boxing match. The movie's vertiginous opening sequence follows the mad dash of the event's maniacal security chief, a local police detective, Rick Santoro (Nicolas Cage), through the arena minotes before the opening bell. Leaping dowo stairs, dancing through corridors, barking salutations to one and all as though he were the world's official greeter, this shark-grinning,

bullying speed demon fields calls from his girlfriend and his wife on his cell phooe and places a last-minute het with nights for Rick, a petty king of sleaze who dreams of one day becoming Atlantic City's mayor, and Cage squeezes every last rancid drop of selfcoogratulatory ferocity out of his character's glad-handing rampage. This pre-bout strut ends at ringside where Rick ioins forces with his best friend, Commander Kevin Dunne (Gary Sinise), the icecool naval officer in charge of security for the visiting sec-

retary of defense (Joel Fabiani). As the fight begins, the camera, ignoring the boxers, anxiously pans the flushed faces at ringside and notices two conspicuously out-of-

man who appears to be without an escort. The fight has barely begun before the knockout punch arrives out of the blue, and the ensuing pandemonium muffles the sound of gunshots. But when the secretary of defense falls, mortally wounded, and the woman in the blond wig flees, her swished in just in time to jack spattered with blood, panic sweeps through the arena, and 14,000 terrified patrons stampede toward the exits. If oothing else in "Snake Eyes" matches the opening sequence in adrenaline-pumping excitement, the movie never quite fizzles. It just gets sillier and more exaggerated in the selfparodying ways that De Palma's movies often do. (Stephen Holden, NYT)

HALLOWEEN: H20

Directed by Steve Miner. In "Halloween: H20," they don't have to cut to the chase; it's all chase. Hasty, doltish his bookie. It is the night of and, thank God, short, the movie watches as, yet again, a blank-masked psychopath named Michael Myers folds, blank-masked spindles and mutilates his way through a batch of high school seniors. We've only seen this six times before. What's missing is the sense of Puritan retribotion the original "Halloween" creator, John Carpenter, brought to the canon, a brilliant stroke that gave the first film a titillating subtext Carpenter's Mike did only bad girls" while sparing the virginal, the cheerful and the perky. This new Mikey: He'll kill anything. What's not miss-ing is Jamie Lee Curtis, the original virgin survivor of 20 years ago, then as now Mike's place patrons. One, wearing a sister - talk about a dysfunccheap blond wig, awkwardly tional family! Like Mikey, plunks herself down beside the secretary of defense. A she's grown up; unlike her

few sears away sits a buxom, brother (who's been io an frizzy-haired red-headed wo- asylum for two decades), she can be a virgin no more, as she has a 17-year-old son (Josh Harmen). She also has a boyfriend, played by Adam Arkin, a counselor at the posh private high school where Curtis is headmistress. And she has a motherly secretary, who in real life is her mother, the peppy Janet Leigh. Do you get the idea all these successful professional actors should be doing something better with their time than acting in movies like this? But — thank God for small mercies - it's over so fast! Barely 82 minutes long. it's as if one day on the set, everybody looked at each other and decided mutually: Enough is enough. Let's just end the damn thing and go home early, (Stephen Hunter, WP)



GUIDE

AUSTRIA

Kunsthalle Krems, tel: (0) 2732-82689, closed Mondays. Continu-ing/ To Sept. 8; "Antoni Taples: Paintings, Sculptures and Draw-ings, 1981-1997." More than 70 paintings, sculptures and drawings by the Catalan artist.

BELGIUM

Memlingmuseum, tel: (50) 44-66-44, open daily. To Dec. 6: "From Memling to Pourbus." Focuses on artistic production in Bruges in the 15th and 16th centuries, Features paintings by Hans Meming (c. 1433-1494), Gerard David (c. 1460-1523) and Pieter Pourbus (1510-1584), as well as sculptures, tapestries and manuscripts.

BRITAIN

Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, tel: (131) 332-226 open daily. To Oct. 25: "Mona Hat-ourn." Features 46 works and installations by the Lebanese-born artist (born 1952), ranging from photographs and videos to sculp tures made from materials such as hair, wax, soap, steel and razor

British Museum, tel: (171) 636-1555, open delty. To Nov. 15: "Jap-anese Buddhist Arts of the Edo Pariod, 1600-1868." Sculpture. ritual implements, paintings and prints reflecting the burgeoning of new Buddhist festivals and other religious observances during the development of Edo (Tokyo), Kyoto and Osaka. www.british-museum.ac.uk

CANADA

Toronto Art Gallery of Ontario, tel: (418) 979-6648, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. Continuing/To Sept. 20: "The Courtauld Collection More than 70 impressionist and Postimpressionist works on loan from the aponymous institute in

www.ago.net FRANCE

Musee du Louvre, tel: 01-40-20-51-51, closed Tuesdays. Continu-ing/ To Sept. 21: "L'Apparence des Cieux: Astronomie et Astrologie en Terre d'Islam." Brings together objects that were used by the Arabs to explore tha sky from the 10th to

http://mistral.culture.fr/louvre Musee d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, tel: 01-53-67-40-00, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Sept. 19, 1999: "La Collection du

Centre Georges Pompidou: Un Chob." Asselection of works from the Fauves to Masson and Dubuffet,

GIRMANY

Deutsche Guggenheim, tel: (30) 34-07-41-34, open daily. Continu-ing/ To Sept. 6: "From Durer to thenberg: A Quintessence of Drawing — Masterpieces from the Albertina and Guggenheim." Brings together more than 80 drawings spanning five centuries.

berlin.de

ITALY

Gallerie Borghese, tel: (6) 32-81-01, closed Mondays, To Sept. 20: "Bernini and the Birth of Baroque." Morks by Glan Lorenzo Bernini (1598-1680). A sculptor and an ar-chitect, Bernini attracted the pat-ronage of Cardinal Scipiona Borghese and commissions from Pope Urban VIII.

TOKYO Tokyo Metropolitan Art Muevery third Monday. To Oct. 4: erworks from the Carmen Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection." Paintings on loan from the Madrid collection, including European and American works from the 18th century to the beginning of the 20th. The exhibition will travel to Takaoka, Nagoya and Sendal.

NETHERLANDS

AMSTERDAM

Rijksmuseum, tel: (20) 673-2121 open daily. Continuing/ To Aug. 30: "From Tampera to Oil Painting: Changes in Venetian Painting Documents the technical innova tions that changed the style of and 1560.

SOUTH KOREA

Ho-Am Art Museum, tel: 0335-20-18-51, closed Mondays. To Aug. 30: "Art of Amitabha'a Pure Land." Farvent belief in the Amit abha, or the Buddha of Infinite Light, left its mark on Korean cul-ture and artistic forms, and became a major theme among Buddhist artworks. Amitabha art includes Buddhist triads, statues ntings, illustrated sutras, and incense burners.

www.hoammuseum.org

Fundacio Caixa de Catalunya, tel: (3) 484-5900, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Aug. 30: "Paul Delvaux." Paintings by the Belgian

painter (1897-1994): Although considered a Surrealist, Delvaux created his own poetic universe of railway stations, classical architecture, symmetrical gardens, female

nudas and inaccessible statues.

Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza, tel: (91) 420-39-44, closed Mon-days. To Oct. 12: "Paul Klee, 1879cays. To Oct. 12: "Paul Klee, 1879-1940." More than 130 works by the Swiss artist who was strongly influential on the first generation of Spanish abstract painters in the 1950s and '60s.

www.offcampus.es/ museo.thyssen-bornemisza

SWITZERLAND

Villa Favorita, tel: (91) 972-1741, open Fridays, Saturdays and Sun-days. Continuing/ To Nov. 1: "Theatre of Reason — Theatre of Desire: The Art of Alexander Benois and Leon Bakst," Recreates the world of Diaghilev's Ballets Russes through the work of the two Russian artists.

MARTIGNY Fondation Pierre Gianadda, tel: (027) 722-39-78, open daily. To Nov. 22: "Paul Gauguin, 1848-1903." A retrospectiva of 120 less- Los Angeles. er-known paintings, works on pa- Aug. 23: "Mexico Ahora: Punto de Art, Tal Aviv.

per and woodcuts by the French painter and sculptor.

UNITED STATES

enhelm Museum, tel: (212) Guggenheim Museum, tel: (212) 423-3500, closed Thursdays. Continuing/To Sept. 7: "Vilhalm Hammarshoi, 1864-1918: Danish Painter of Solitude and Light." Landscapes and interiors painted In a realistic style, with a limited tte of muted colors, predominantly in grays.

www.guggenheim.org Metropolitan Museum, tel: (212) 570-27-91, closed Mondays. Continuing/To Sept. 6: "Sir Edward Burne-Jones." More than 200 oil paintings, watercolors, drawings as well as tapestries, stained glass, tiles, painted furniture and lewelry that reflect the romantic, medieval subject matter that suffused the British artist's work.

CLOSING SOON

Aug. 23: "Hogarth and His Times." National Gallery of Canada, Ot-

Aug. 23: "Landscape Drawings, MIDDLE EAST

Los Angeles. Aug. 23: "Celabrity Caricature In America." National Portrait Gallery, Washington.

Aug. 25: "Picasso and Photo-graphy." Tempozan Gallery, Osaka, Japan. Aug. 25: "Marc Chagall." Daimaru Aug. 23: "Tha New World of the Aug. 23: "The Bemhard Mayer Collection." Kunsthaus, Zurich.

Aug. 23: "Die Sammlung Georg Reinhart." Kunstmuaaum, Winterthur., Switzerland Aug. 23: "Louise Bourgeois: Obras Recentes." Centro Cultural de Belem, Lisbon.

Aug. 22: "From Minima to con-ceptual Art." Tel Aviv Museum of

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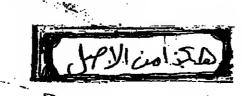


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INTERNATIONAL

Suspected Head of IRA Spin-Off Fearful as Violent Cause Loses Support

By T.R. Reid Vashington Post Service

classic Irisb town, where the granite tower of St. Patrick's Cathedral looms high over the potato fields, that Mickey McKevitt learned the hard ways of the Irish Republican Army.

In 1975, when Mr. McKevitt was still a junior foot soldier in the Irish nationalist guerrilla group, be was con-fronted by IRA "comrades" who told him in the right leg. Then, for good measure, they shot him in the left. During weeks of treatment and rehabili-

sailants. Having thus proved himself to be the kind of "bard man" that the IRA frightened, the priest said.

his parish priest Tuesday that he was attack for Mr. McKevitt and the Real IRA faction — which opposes the bas always cherished, be worked his way DUNDALK, Ireland - It was in this up over the next two decades, according to observers of the movement.

But today that "hard man" is perhaps

the most hated man on this island.

Mr. McKevitt, 49, has been widely reported to be the head of the IRA splinter group - called the Real IRA whose bomh killed 28 people in Omagh, Northern Ireland, on Saturday, the bloodiest single incident in three dehim he had to be disciplined for hreaking cades of sectarian warfare over the discome rules. As punishment, they shot vision of the island between the Revision of the island and the British public of Ireland and the British province of Northern Ireland. Although he bas not been charged in connection tation, Mr. McKevitt resolutely refused with the bombing — and denies any to tell the police anything about his as-

The Omagh car bombing prompted such intense revulsion for the Real IRA that they have lost almost all support that Prime Minister Bertie Ahern of Ireland held an emergency cabinet meeting in response to propose what he called 'extremely Draconian' new steps to crack down on suspected terrorists.

If approved, as expected, by Parliament, the new code will authorize the jailing of suspected members of banned organizations strictly on the word of police or undercover agents; currently, some corroborating evidence is required to hold suspects. It also will create a new crime category, "directing terrorism." to be applied to those who recruit others to shoot people or plant bombs.

Perhaps the worst consequence of the

Northern Ireland peace agreement - is within their own community of republicans, those who oppose British rule in the province and advocate Northern Ireland's union, by warfare if necessary, with the Republic of Ireland.

Evidently recognizing that the latest bombing had backfired against its cause, the Real IRA has issued apologies to the victims, saying the carnage was unintentional, and it announced this week that it had suspended its bombing campaign. These second thoughts did nothing to diminish the public rage against the group even in this coastal area near the border with Northern Ireland, where most of the 100 or so members of the Real IRA live.

time as a republican town, and even an IRA town," said John Woods, a local lawyer. "But this current IRA crowd, they speak for nobody. The very definite message to these people from their neighbors is, 'Get out of our town.'

Several hundred people staged a protest march Wednesday from downtown Dundalk to Blackrock, the bousing development where Mr. McKevitt lives with his partner, Bernadette Sands, also a political activist, and their three children. She is the sister of an IRA hero, Bobby Sands, who died during a hunger strike in 1981 while he was imprisoned for terrorism. She describes herself as a peaceful political organizer. the IRA's "engineering department"—
The couple say they have no connection to the Omagh bombing, but their from IRA ammunition caches.

"Dundalk has been known for some neighbors do not seem to believe them. For the past two days people in Dundalk have been leaving signs reading "Shame!" and "Murderer" at the door of the print shop she runs in the local shopping mail. Other merchants, who declined to be identified for fear of retribution, say they have demanded that the mall manager evict Ms. Sands. Ms. Sands and her family have gone

into hiding because of the threats.

Mr. McKevin broke with his former comrades last fall when the IRA and its political wing, Sinn Fein, endorsed the movement toward a peace agreement.
According to police officials, he set up
the Real IRA, recruiting members from

How Bin Laden Moved From Ally to Foe

By Tim Weiner New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - Osama hin Laden, the ultimate target of the military strikes on Afghanistan and Sudan on Thursday, has been the world's leading individual sponsor of terrorist attacks against Americans since 1992,

In what turned out to be about an hour before the air strikes, Mr. bin Laden was interviewed by telephone by a Peshawar, Pakistan-based correspondent for The News, a leading Sudanese English-language daily, Mr. hin Laden denied that he had had any role in the bombings of the

U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. But I urge Muslims all over the world to continue the jihad against Americans and Jews, 'he said.

Thursday evening, the same correspondent managed to get through to Kandahar, Afgbanistan, the Taleban headquarters. A man there identified only as Abdullah said that the air strikes had been against Khost and Jalalabad, cities in Afghanistan where journalists had met with Mr. bin Laden in the past. Mr. Abdullah said that Mr. hin Laden

had been in Khost on Thursday. But be added that Mr. bin Laden was safe - that be was not killed or hurt by the strikes.

Heir to a \$250 million fortune built by his father, who constructed palaces, mosques and public works for the Saudi royal family, Mr. bin Laden spent the 1990s building a global network of armed cemetery moved Ms. Duncan to tears: nancial infrastructure," a senior U.S. in- Hansen and Kristian Hansen. telligence official said. "He has networks

with capability, people, money. dle East, Mr. bin Laden declared war against U.S. interests everywhere, savforces and allies in his homeland, Saudi

This year, he publicly warned that American civilians were his targets as well. Mr. bin Laden was once known to the United States as an ally.

"We knew him as one of the Saudi benefactors who took care of widows and orphans" in the war fought by the American-backed Afghan rebels against 110,000 invaders from the Soviet Union, said a retired American official who helped

fight that long battle from 1979 to 1989. In 1979, immediately after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, "I was emraged and went there at once," be said in an 1993 interview. Through the 1980s, he spent millions supporting the Afghan guerrillas, financing hundreds of vol-unteers who came from throughout the

Islamic world to fight in Afghanistan, and creating a network of guest houses and charioes in support them and their be moved to Sudan, where he formed a

Zalmay Khalilzad, a former State Department and Pentagon official who mon-inred the war, said; "He had a common cause with the United States. But with the end of the Soviet occupation in 1989, his struggle became the struggle against the United States, the dominant power in the world and in the Middle East."

He returned to Saudi Arabia in 1989. and began to support militant Islamic groups opposing moderate Islamic governments. The roots of his rage against the United States lie in the 1991 Gulf War and the continuing presence of U.S. troops on the sands of Saudi Arabia. He swore to fight a boly war against what be called "the crusaders" trespassing on the holy sites of Islam. What this man thinks about every

day is; How do I get the U.S. out of my home in Saudi Arahia, and bow do I get those corrupt pharaohs out of power?" said Kenneth Katzman, a former analyst for the Central Intelligence Agency who is the Congressional Research

close alliance with that nation's most powerful man: Hassan Turabi. The leader of the governing party, the National Islamic Front, Mr. Turabi saw himself as the Grand Vizier of Islam, the successor of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini as the leading voice for Islamic fundamentalism in the world. Their activities

States' short list of state sponsors of international terrorism. 'Bin Laden is inspired by Turabi's expansive vision; he sees eye to eye with him," Mr. Katzman said. "Turabi has Islamic credentials bin Laden could never have. They are allies. They are close associates. They are business partners. Bin Laden is Turahi's alter ego, his field

helped place the Sudan on the United

commander, his operations chief,"
The National Islamic Front is a financial partner in Mr. bin Laden's import-export, agricultural cooperative, construction and Islamic banking businesses based in and around Khartoum, the capital of Sudan.

"Bin Laden bas made financial con-



Osama bin Laden, the Saudi dissident linked to terrorist plots.

tributions to the Sudanese military industrial complex," a senior U.S. intelligence official said Thursday, "of which, we believe, the Shifa pharmaceutical facility is part." That plant was bombed by the United States on Thurs-

U.K. to Toughen Terror Laws

By Youssef M. Ibrahim New York Times Service

LONDON - Prime Minister Tony Blair pledged Thursday to toughen anti-terrorist laws in Britain, matching draconian measures announced by the Republic of Ireland following the bombing that killed 28 in Omagh, Northern Ireland, on Saturday.

Mr. Blair said from the south of

France where he is on holiday with his family, "We will bring in similar measures to those proposed by the Irish government, so we will then have the toughest anti-terrorist measures for the whole of the island of Ireland, the Republic and Northern Ireland, that we

While Mr. Blair did not elaborate on the specifics, the measures adopted by Ireland that be proposes to emulate in-clude widening government power to intern terrorist suspects without trial, tightening up bail conditions for those accused of crimes and restricting the options of

their right to silence under questioning.
The upshot of these measures, officials here said, is to make it easier to

obtain convictions against suspected members of terror groups or take them off the streets for lengthy periods of time. A spokesman for Mr. Blair said the prime minister did not at the moment contemplate new lengthing. contemplate new legislation, as many of these measures could be taken by stretching the application of existing British laws. But he noted that if new laws were required "we will do whatever is necessary."

A senior member of the Tory op-position, Andrew Mackay, the shadow Northern Ireland minister, said that his party would give full support if new laws were necessary to bring about a crack-

down on terrorist activities.
Paul Murphy, a Northern Ireland min-ister, said on BBC Radio that Britain was working hand in hand with Ireland to track down those responsible for the attack.

"The purpose of all this, of course, is to catch these people, to ensure they are caught as quickly as possible, that they are arrested, that they are convicted and put into prison," he said.

The size of the carriage grew Thursday as medical officials in Belfast reported that 330 people had been injured.

FLU: Scientists and Grave-Diggers Burrow Into the Arctic Seeking Viral Evidence to Explain 1918 Pandemic

Continued from Page 1

fundamentalists, backed by businesses Johan Bjerk, William Henry Richardand banks that functioned as front or- sen. Ole Kristofferson, Magnus Gabganizations. "He has a very intricate fi- rielson. Tormod Albrigtsen, Hans

Ms. Duncan impressed Norwegian on every continent almost. He has an authorities with the importance of the infrastructure that's very, very replete project: isolating and describing at last the unknown 1918 virus. She empha-Fueled by rage against America's sized the safety precautions that would political and military power in the Mid- be taken. The authorities then obtained tories in Norway, Canada, Britain and permission from the families to exhume and autopsy six of the seven bodies (all ing his strongest anger for American hut Mr. Kristofferson's). By the time the pathologists, virologists, molecular hi- Research in London. Both are equipped ologists, geologists and medical archeologists for the work ahead.

A survey with ground-penetrating radar established that the bodies, resting side by side, were indeed in permafrost and thus ought to be well preserved for medical study. A team of experienced grave-diggers from Necropolis Co. in

London was hired.

After the topsoil is removed by spade tric jackhammer, Dr. Charles R. Smith, a sample and, if there is, protect against its has kept since the Civil War. The analpathologist from the Hospital for Sick escape into the environment."
Children at the University of Toronto, The research, Dr. Bergan

the dead, who were not embalmed. The bodies will not be thawed or taken from the grave, both out of respect and as a precaution against the spread of any infectious material. The scientists doubt that any of the flu virus will still be alive. But, just in case, they will be wearing modified space suits with self-contained breathing apparatuses.

Once the tissues are extracted, porseparate vials and shipped to laborathe United States. The most sensitive investigations will be conducted at the U.S. Army's infectious-disease research permissions came through, Ms. Duncan laboratory in Fort Detrick, Maryland, had gathered an international group of and at the National Institute of Medical to maintain the highest levels of hiological containment of unknown and possibly dangerous organisms. Dr. Tom Bergan of the University of

Oslo, a virologist on the team, said the tissue samples would not be touched at the cemetery or until they arrived at the laboratories. "Our first ohligation is soldiers who died of flu in World War I. safety requirements against the risk of The specimens were in an inventory of contamination," he said. "We want to autopsy tissue, soaked in formaldehyde and the permafrost is penetrated by elec- make sure there is no viable virus in the and encased in paraffin, that the army

The research, Dr. Bergan said, may plans to remove samples of tissnes from help determine the composition, genetic the lungs, intestines and other organs of structure and nature of the 1918 virus, in

particular its exterior surfaces, where the who lives in San Francisco, went to the lungs and the upper respiratory tract. Such knowledge could lead to the defications of current or new anti-viral traces. drugs for treating the disease.

infections like pneumonia that often attacked the weakened flu victims and contributed to death.

Project scientists said it might take year, before they would be ready to publish their findings.

Their project comes at a time when their search for the 1918 virus has gained momentum on several fronts. Last year, Dr. Jeffrey Taubenberger, a biologist at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington, reported finding viral fragments in the lung tissue of two U.S. ysis of the material has enabled the scientists to map at least one of the virus's

virus attaches itself to the lining of the tundra of Alaska last year and exhumed. the well-preserved body of an Eskimo woman who died of the 1918 flu. He sent velopment of a vaccine against this acute lung tissue samples to Dr. Taubenberform of influenza and to tests and modi- ger, who was able to isolate more viral

They had no antibiotics to treat bacterial, Duncan herself wondered if there was infections like pneumonia that often at any point in continuing in light of Dr. Taubenberger's successes. At a meeting with officials at the Federal Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, she was perseveral months of analysis, maybe a suaded to press on. The project is supported by a \$150,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health in the United States and £120,000 (\$194,000) from a Hoffmann-LaRoche pharmaceutical subsidiary of Roche Holding AG of

> Ms. Duncan emphasized the need for still more samples from other parts of the world, especially material that has not been preserved - and therefore possibly altered - in formaldehyde.

> So Roger Webber, the head gravedigger, is ready. He has been exhuming bodies in Britain for 33 years but has never worked in permafrost. It cannot be harder than the many times he bas dealt with layers of solid chalk or limestone,

Using a technique known as needle biopsy, the pathologist, Dr. Smith, will take bore samples of tissue from the children in the lungs of the six bodies.

Then he will try to probe the hearts, where he may be able to extract frozen blood. This is a long shot, but any blood ..., ugs for treating the disease.

These findings encouraged Ms. could yield samples of serum and any
The pandemic occurred at the close of Duncan's team in the belief that they antibodies produced in the acute phases.

The pandemic occurred at the close of Duncan's team in the belief that they antibodies produced in the acute phases. World War I, when doctors had yet to would also find traces of flu viruses in of the disease. The intestines could hold learn that influenza is caused by a virus. permafrost burials. But for a time, Ms. bacteria, possible clues to other complicating infections. An attempt will also be made to get samples from the livers and solvens.

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with wind.

and spicens. As Dr. Smith said, the first principle an of exhumation is that "you don't know what you are going to find until you-

Except for the influx of scientists and agrave-diggers, a few journalists and rele-vision crews, the search for the 1918 influenza virus has created little stir in Spitsbergen. The 1,300 residents of -Longyearbyen, the island's principal community, are used to visitors with peculiar goals in mind. Explorers like Richard E. Byrd and Roald Amundsen set out from here in 1929 for the North Pole, about 1,100 kilometers (700 miles)

More recently, scientists have been hoperating bases for studies in geophysics, climatology and polar life in the in Svalbard Archipelago, which includes with

TERROR: U.S. Attacks Several Terror Facilities in Afghanistan and Sudan With Cruise Missiles

Continued from Page 1

raid, be added. Although the operation was described as prevenove and not simply retribution, it clearly was triggered by the twinned bomhings on Aug. 8 of the U.S. embassies and then mounted swiftly and in great

terrorists by surprise. All of the targets were located within range of Tomahawk cruise missiles launched by the U.S. Navy. Warships in the Red Sea would be close enough to the two sites in Sudan, and even the five targets in Afghanistan could be struck by missiles fired from positions in the In-

secrecy in hopes of catching the

Overall, 75 to 100 cruise missiles traced to their soil.

Prior to the recent embassy bombings, Mr. bin Laden had orwere fired on the targets in Afghan-

istan and Sudan, military sources tion but to mount a military attack.

The cruise missiles, aided hy beams for guidance onto the targets. tion about Mr. bin Laden's terrorist accivities in recent years and also about the infrastructure of his organization in both Sudan and Afghanistan.

Both the Sudanese government and the Taleban, which has been harboring Mr. bin Laden, have made it clear that they had no intention of cooperating with any U.S. attempt

satellite mapping and then locking control of Mr. bin Laden's orga-

The targets included a set of camps - one for command and

onto electronie images of terrorist nization, one for guerrilla training installations, would have used laser and one for logistics and other opnization, one for guerrilla training erational support for terrorism - in U.S. intelligence, Pentagon officials Afghanistan. In Sudan, U.S. forces indicated, had extensive informative information industrial facility near the hit an industrial facility near the capital, Khartoum. Mr. Cohen said the Afghan camps

had trained "hundreds if not thousands" of terrorists and he implied that Mr. bin Laden's operational infrastructure had been badly hit at its Press reports have cited attempts

by Mr. bin Laden to purchase nuclear warheads from black market supto bring to justice Islamic terrorists pliers in the former Soviet Union.

ganized attacks on U.S. forces in Somalia and assassination attempts against the Pope and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, U.S. of-

ficials said. No other government, apparently, was informed in advance of the U.S. operation. Pakistan, a Muslim neighbor of Afghanistan, an-oounced that it had not been involved in the air strikes.

But there were bound to be questions about whether Egypt, openly hostile to Sudan, and perhaps even Pakistan, allowed some U.S. warbases on their territory for reconnaissance.

Mr. Cohen took pains to say that U.S. officials had no idea of the exact whereabouts of Mr. hin Laden at the time of the attacks, thus suggesting led by Mr. bin Laden.

that the raids were not deliberately designed as an assassination.

The U.S. raids were synchronized to hit their targets simultaneously in both Middle Eastern countries, apparently at a time of day when the risk of killing local people was as low as practicable, officials said. The U.S. raids, Mr. Cohen said, showed that terrorists will have no

sanctuary, "no refuge from the long arm of justice." Explaining his decision to order the air strikes. Mr. Clinton said that the risks of inaction had outweighed planes covertly to operate from air- any considerations of waiting, explaining that failure to move "would have emboldened our enemies."

The president indicated that fresh terrorist strikes against U.S. targets were being readied by the terrorists

BRIEFLY

UN Keeps Sanctions on Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, New York — The Security Council decided on Thursday that Iraq has not met the conditions for sanctions to be lifted and said it was extremely concerned that Baghdad has refused to cooperate with arms inspectors.

The council, after holding its regular 60-day review of sanctions, repeated its statement that Iraq's decision on Aug. 5 to freeze cooperation was "totally unacceptable."

The United States had sought to make the Security Council statement tougher, but that effort failed, council sources said on condition of anonymity.

Bomb in Algeria Kills 13

ALGIERS - A bomh exploded in a town in western Algeria on Thursday, killing at least 13 people, and newspapers reported that soldiers killed 33 Muslim rebels this week in a new wave of violence.

The home-made bomb wounded 39 when it exploded in the town of El Khemis in Ain Defla Province, 130 kilometers (80 miles) southwest of Algiers. Algerian newspapers reported on Timrsday that at least 33 Muslim rebels were killed when soldiers attacked their

hideouts in various parts of the country. Jordan Gets New Premier

AMMAN, Jordan — Fayez Tarawach was sworn in as prime minister on Thursday.

Crown Prince Hassan bin Talal officiated at the new cabinet's swearing-in, deputizing for King Hussein, who is undergoing cancer treatment in the United States.

Prime Minister Abdul-Salam Majali resigned on Wednesday after a public outcry over polluted drinking water in the capital and parliamentary accusations that it had

misled the country about economic growth. Paraguay President is Censured

ASUNCION, Paraguay — Congress has voted to censure President Raul Cubas less than a week after he took office.

The censure came because one of Mr. Cubas's first acts after being sworn in on Saturday was to free a former army chief convicted of leading a 1996 coup attempt,

During his campaign, Mr. Cubas had promised to free

ALBANIA: 5 Egyptian Terror Suspects Arrested, and Bomb Plans Seized REACTION:

Continued from Page 1

"We were told there is a high threat out there," said Major Frank Carroll, the commander of the Marines from the 22d Marine Expeditionary Unit, who were diverted from a planned NATO training exercise last Friday night to protect the embassy.

The alleged Egyptian terrorists operated under the cloak of a wave of Islamic proselytizers from Egypt, Saudi Arahia and other Arab countries, many of them fundamentalists, who have flocked here in recent years, establishing charitable organizations that huilt hospitals, schools and orphanages under the condition that they also huild mosques.

But while this is a country that is nominally two-thirds Muslim as a heritage of the Ottoman Empire — there are also substantial Roman Catholic and Greek Onhodox populations - it is also one that has historically not taken religion terribly seriously. A local proverb translates roughly "Re-

ligion follows the sword," meaning political Under the Turks, affiliations sometimes shifted to gain exemption from taxes or military conscription.

Far more important, in many areas, was the Kanun of Lek, the centuries-old folkloric rules regulating the conduct of blood feuds. So, rather than huilding a new base of

Islamic fundamentalist recruits, officials here say, Islamic Jihad and other groups used the down." cover of the widespread Islamic activity and the prevailing breakdown of law and order the country virtually fell apart in March 1997 when the collapse of a pyramid scheme bankrupted much of the population and led to rioting, the dissolution of the army, looting of weapons and the collapse of the government — to set up operations in a place with porous

borders and few, if any, internal controls. The surry of the raids and their American direction was broken by the scuffling police reporters of the country's two higgest newspapers, and the young journalists are still giddy over their unaccustomed scoop.

The Albanian authorities, for their part, embarrassed that the story got out and worried give their name. about possible retaliation, have clammed up. "My instinct told me the story was really a hig story," said Alfred Peza, editor of Gazeta Shqiptare, savoring the moment over thick black coffee at the crowded cafe known as

said. "Maybe in the excitement of telling the story of the good work they had done they "The next day, the police bosses cracked East peace process and Serbian attacks on

But Thursday, neighbors at one of the sites of the raids, a back alley off Myslym Shyri Street, only about a block from central police headquarters, where an Islamic foundation occupies an unmarked third floor apartment,

confirmed the details of American supervision revealed in Mr. Peza's newspaper under the headline "The Operation Which Speaks Several English-speaking foreigners carrying walkie-talkies stood in the alley directing the operation while the Albanian secret police searched the upstairs apartment, said the neighbors, none of whom, after de-

The director of the Albanian secret police, known as Sbik, politely declined a request for an interview Thursday, indicating that the Americans, with whom he was still working closely, had forcefully expressed the position Fideli's, where the local journalists hang out. that too much had been said already.

"The police regretted it the next day," he Clinton Wins Support

Continued from Page 1

ethnic Albanians in Kosovo - that he said had been seriously neglected by the Clinton administration in the months since the Lewinsky matter began. 'I can't say they've been neglected because

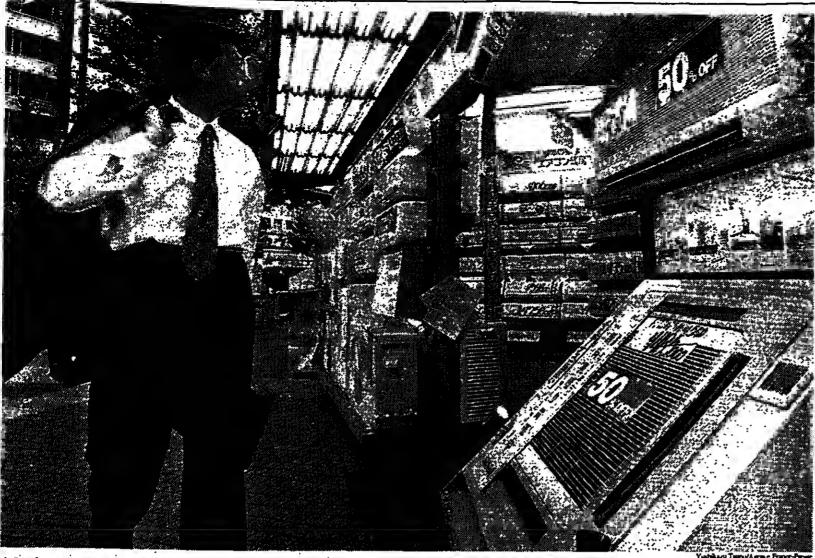
of Monica Lewinsky," he said, "but I can say unequivocally that they have been neglected, and to the detriment of our interests." Without specifically mentioning the Lew-insky matter, Senator Dan Coats, Republican

characteristic of anything he's done in six years of the presidency that it raises legitimate questions." "I think we fear what might come next."

of Indiana, questioned whether Mr. Clinton "was in a position to make a sound judgment call and whether he should have considered the speculation that would arise worldwide." The timing here is so extraordinary," he cades of the harshest Communiat rule, would said, "the reaction of the president so un-

> He added his voice to the handful of Republicans who have called on Mr. Clinton to

AND STANDARD STANDARD



A businessman looking at air conditioners on sale in Tokyo at 50 percent off. Sales of summer goods have dropped sharply. The Economic Planning Agency said the government's assessment of Japan's economic condition might worsen after the release of July economic data.

Russia Tries to Avert A Run on Its Banks

Several Big Lenders Facing Risk of Failure

David Hoffman

MOSCOW - Fearful of a panic run on banks, the chairman of the central bank of Russia called on individual depositors to remain calm Thursday despite the devaluation of the ruble and reports that several of Russia's largest banks were on the verge of failure.

The appeal by the official, Sergei Dubinin, underscored the government's concero about public reaction to the prospect of big banks going under after the de facto devaluation of the ruble. Sergei Aleksashenko, first deputy chairman of the central bank, told Reuters Television, "h's quite clear that even some of the biggest, even of the top 20, Russian banks will fail."

Later, a central bank spokeswoman, Irina Yasina, noted that these were generally not banks that hold consumer

deposits.

Russia oow has several types of banks. Some are still partially stateowned, like the giant savings bank, Sberbank. Others are spinoffs of Sovietera banks. There are bundreds of small, sectoral banks linked to factories and

regions and interest groups, many of which are already near collapse. There also is a group of private, commercial Moscow-based banks linked to the major financial-industrial groups, which are run by the wealthy tycoons who have become so influential here in re-

Among these big commercial banks, some are in trouble because their ruble assets have depreciated but they still have big dollar obligations coming due soon. "We envision that several large banks whose sbareholders include major Russian corporations may face dif-ficulties in the near future," Ms. Yasina

The government has tried to help these large banks by injecting new credits into a pool of 12 of them, and by imposing a three-month moratorium on repaying their overseas obligations. The ceotral bank bas estimated that the mor-atorium covers \$4 billion in bank and company credits to foreigners

Critics have questioned wby the 12 banks, which have good political con-oections, should get special treatment.

See RUSSIA, Page 15

AIG to Buy SunAmerica In \$18 Billion Stock Deal

NEW YORK - The insurance heavyweight American International Group Inc. said Thursday it would buy SunAmerica Inc., a leader in financial products that people use in saving for retirement, for about \$18 billion in

The acquisition comes as the global financial services industry undergoes an unprecedented bout of consolidation. Banks, insurers and fund managers are attempting to broaden their product portfolios, while using their increased size to reduce the burden of increasing technology costs.

The transaction gives AlG, whose business is largely focused on commercial insurance, an entrance into the personal financial products business, SunAmerica specializes in retirement products such as annuities.

Ira Zuckerman, an analyst at Nutmeg Securities LId, in Westport, Connecticut, said the deal would get AIG into the variable annuity and life-insurance market in the U.S. in a way they could prohably never achieve on their own.

AIG, which derives more than half of ils camings from outside the United States, last month reported a rise in second quarter earnings of 13.5 percent, to \$886.5 million, despite a strong dollar that depressed revenues from Asia.

Sun America is one of the best performing financial stocks in the United States, rising 69 percent during the past

12 mooths. Last mouth, the company said its third-quarter earnings rose strongly as sales more than doubled.

Under terms of the deal, each SunAmerica share will be exchanged

for 0.855 share of AIG. SunAmerica bad \$2.1 billion in revenue in 1997. AlG sells property-cas-ualty and life insurance in 130 countries and reported \$30.6 billion in revenue in

Shares of AIG slipped on the news while SunAmerica stock surged. AIG shares closed \$7.125 lower at \$87.50. while SunAmerica shares ended \$7.50 higher at \$71.75.
SunAmerica will continue to be

based in Los Angeles, operating as a separate company with existing man-agement and retaining its name under AIG ownership. The boards of the two companies

have agreed to the deal, which is subject to approval by the shareholders of both companies as well as by regulators. Eli Broad, SunAmerica's chairman

and chief executive, has agreed to vote his shares in favor of the deal, and is expected to join the AlG board along with Jay S. Winfrob, vice chairman of SunAmen Mr. Broad's family controls about 10 percent of SunAmerica's stock.

M.R. Greenberg, AlG's chairman and chief executive, said the deal "positions AIG in a major market where we have not been well represented."

Bankruptcy Shame: Suicide and Hiding Rise in Japan

By Sandra Sugawara
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — Early Thursday, Nobno Shibata, 48, the president of a small sheet-metal company, was found slumped in his car next to his brother. A hose attached to the tailpipe had sent deadly exhaust fumes wasting into the

A suicide note found in Mr. Shibata's pocket read, "We apologize to ail our employees for the shimp in our busi-

As debate drags on Parliament about the best way to pull Japan out of its recession, the evidence of a dramatic

Shibata's are reflected throughout the Japanese economy, as bankruptcies and suicides rise, and as increasing numbers of people who cannot repay loans go into hiding to avoid the stigma of bank-

Corporate failures surged 35.7 per-cent in July from a year earlier, to 1.710 cases, and are expected to continue rising, according to Teikoku Databank, a private research group. Personal bank-ruptcies, which hit 70,000 last year, are expected to exceed 100,000 this year, according to bankruptcy attorneys. They also estimate that about 100,000

debtors are in hiding. In 1997, about 3,600 Japanese killed decline appears daily. Struggles like Mr. themselves over economic problems,

according to the National Police

Agency.

Hideo Yamada, a leading bankruptcy attorney, said an estimated 1.5 million people are unable to repay their loans and are struggling to avoid bankruptcy.

Some turn to relatives or loan sharks who often have ties to organized crime groups - for cash, with the hope their finances will improve and they will be able to repay the money soon, he said.

But with the economy sliding further many of them may have difficulty doing that Indeed, this week the Economic Planning Agency minister, Taichi Sakaiya, said the government's assessment of Japan's economic condition might worsen after the release of July economic data.

lion of labor unions, is so concerned about the impact the credit crunch will have on jobs, the Kyodo news agency reported, that it recently decided to fun-nel 20 percent of its strike fund to guarantee loans taken out by companies that employ union members.

In the United States, bankruptcy is sometimes seen as a form of creative destruction. Many American entrepreneurs blithely recite the failed husinesses vontures that preceded their successes. But not in Japan.

"In just about all the regions, the

Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa

has acknowledged that the bailout of

major banks this year did oothing to

revive lending. It is hard for companies

to get the bank loans they need to do

business. That is expected to accelerate

the rate of bankruptoies.
The Japanese Trade Union Confed-

eration, the largest umbrella organiza-

economy has become worse," Sakaiya said, according to Reuters,

To have to borrow, there is a sense of shame," a bankruptcy attorney, Kenji Utsunomiya, said. "And once you borrow, there is a widespread feel-

See BANKRUPT, Page 17

Real Estate Funds Break New Ground

High Dividends of REITs Can Provide Ballast for Small Investors

stocks bounced back early this week, there's soll plenty of devastation out there to delight bargain hunters. Take, for example, real estate investment trusts, or REITs, which are firms that typically own dozens of properties or mortgages.

REITs provide the best way for small investors to own real estate, and now they appear particularly timely. Interest rates are low and coold go lower, reducing borrowing costs, and REITs, with their high dividends, can provide ballast for a portfolio when the rest of the market hits rough seas.

Lately, however, REITs themselves bave been tossed by storms. The Bloomberg

REIT index peaked back on Oct. 6, 1997, at JAMES K. GLASSMAN ON INVESTING 148.9. It hit 120.3 on Aug. 5 - a decline of 19 percent, the equivalent of a drop of 1,800 points in the Dow Jones industrial average. The most recent downturn, which coincided with the fall in the general stock market, chopped 14 percent off the price of the average REIT in just one

A typical victim is CarrAmerica Corp., based in Washington. The RE-IT, which owns suburban office buildings in such far-flung markets as Seattle and Atlanta, has fallen from \$30.12 1/2 a share on July 9 to \$25.06 1/4 Wednesday - a decline of 17 percent - despite consistently rising earn-

What's happening? First, there's worry that the economy may be slow-ing down, so demand for offices could fall and raising apartment rents could become more difficult. Also, in a rush 10 expand, many REITs have overpaid for properties, and investors are shunning trusts that expand too quickly.

But the main reason REITs have

suffered is simply that investors think their prices went too high too fast. The skeptics, of course, may be right, but they have beaten up some of these stocks so badly that they now look particularly attractive.

What makes the typical REIT so

ASHINGTON — While easy to love is its yield—or the cash it pays out to shareholders each year. At a time when the average stock in the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index is yielding 1.4 percent and long-term Treasury bonds are yielding 5.6 per-cent, the average REIT in the Bloomberg index is paying 6.2 per-cent. CarrAmerica is yielding 7.4 per-

Unlike bonds, which deliver the same dividend year after year, REIT payouts tend to rise. Assume, for instance, that you pay \$1,000 for REIT stock that is currently paying a dividend of \$60 a year. If the dividend rises at a rate of 10 perceot annually,

you will be receiving about \$120 in the

eighth year. That's a yield of 12 per-

required to distribute nearly all of their earnings and capital gains — if selling

property at a profit — to shareholders. REIT dividend yields — the most re-cent annual payout divided by the cur-

rent stock price - can vary widely

from year to year as the real estate cycle goes up and down, so it's vital that you bold good REITs for the long term.

The yields for some REITS are stunning. Consider United Dominion

Realty Trust Inc., a Virginia-based

REIT with \$2.3 billion in assets, spe-

cializing in apartment communities in

Sun Belt states. Its current yield is 8.7

percent, according to Bloomberg, up from 5 percent two years ago. United

Dominion's payout has been rising at a

rate of 24 percent annually over the

price is down - it's down 16 percent

since March. United Dominion could

suffer in the near future, Mario Ferro

of the Value Line Investment Survey

reports, as it upgrades its portfolio of apartments. Still, he writes, it is "an

appealing choice for long-term in-

The yield is up because the stock

past five years.

Because REITs are trusts, they are

Another example of an attractive yield can be found in Washington Real Estate Investment Trust, a conservative REIT that owns shopping centers and office and apartment buildings in the Baltimore-Washington area. Its current yield is 6.7 percent, as it "continues to experience strong conditions in all of its property segmeots," ac-cording to Value Line's Sigourney Romaine.

Washington REIT stock is down 11 percent, bowever, in the past year giving it a negative return after the dividend. That compares with a return of 23 percent for the S&P index. The

case for REITs like Washington is similar to the case for small-cap stocks: Prices are out of whack with the market as a whole, and

over the long term they should rise to be synchronized again. When searching for REITs to buy, a key figure — in addition to dividend yield — is "funds from operations," or FFO, which is loosely defined as net income plus depreciation minus capital gains. The price-to-FFO ratio (or

P/FFO) is roughly equivalent to the P/ E (price-to-earnings) ratio for a conventional stock. Not long ago, most P/FFOs were in the range of 10 to 12. Today, REITs such as Voroado Realty Trust have P/ FFOs as high as 28. The P/FFO for Washington REIT is a more modest

14; for United Dominion, it's just 9. li is not easy, however, to analyze the portfolio of a real estate investment trust. Even deriving the FFO is difficult. For that reason, many investors

should look to REIT mutual funds rather than REITs themselves. Cohen & Steers Realty Shares is the largest of the REIT funds and a favorite of Sheldon Jacobs, editor of the

No-Load Fund Investor, and Walter Frank, editor of Moneyletter. Over the past 12 months, it has returned (after dividends) a negative 2 percent. The fund is so large that its REIT choices tend to be conventional and large-

U.S. Layoffs Slow but Exceed '80s Pace

By Louis Uchitelle New York Times Service

NEW YORK - The most compredensive survey of permanent layoffs in America finds that in the past three years, a smaller percentage of workers lost jobs than earlier in this decade. But the layoff rate is still significantly higher than it was in the 1980s, and women oow get pink slips almost as often as

These were two major findings in Wednesday's release of the latest "job displacement" survey from the Labor Department, covering the years 1995 through 1997. Eight million people were pushed out of their jobs involuntarily, or one out of every 15 adult jobbolders. That was down from 8.4 million in the previous three-year period, or 1 in 12 workers, the decade's worst performance.

"We are seeing the normal cyclical behavior of the labor force reflected in these numbers," Henry Farber, a Princeton economist, said of the strong conomic growth in 1996 and 1997 and the falling unempoloyment rate. "The puzzle is, Why has it taken so long to get the layoff rate down this far and wby is it not even lower?"

Downsizing is still occurring at a greater rate than in the late 1980s, the last time an economic expansion lasted as long as the current one. Then the displacement rate was 1 out of every 18

jobholders 20 years old and over.

The Labor Department's Bureau of

Labor Statistics began the job displacement surveys in 1984, when widespread permanent layoffs were just becoming an issue. Those surveys found that downsizing fell quickly after the 1981-82 recession. The 1990s have been different. Permanent layoffs rose in the 1990-91 recession and then failed to fall back. They even kept rising despite the

Labor economists offer various explanations for the persistent downsiz-The phenomenon spread in the 1990s from blue-collar to white-collar workers, and from manufacturing to service industries:

"American companies are much more concerned than in the past about labor fat in their organizations," said Jared Bernstein, a labor economist at the Economic Policy Institute in Washington. "Some of that has to do with a heightened emphasis on short-term profits, achieved in part through labor-

Cost cutting."

Growing international competition has also played a role, and so have

corporate mergers.
Still, the latest survey brought a bright side. While layoffs have risen among white-collar workers and women, job losers found themselves re-em-

ployed more quickly. Seventy-six percent of the 2.4 million

three-year period found themselves reemployed io full-time jobs by the time of the survey, which was conducted in February. The rest were still among the unemployed or had dropped out of the labor force.

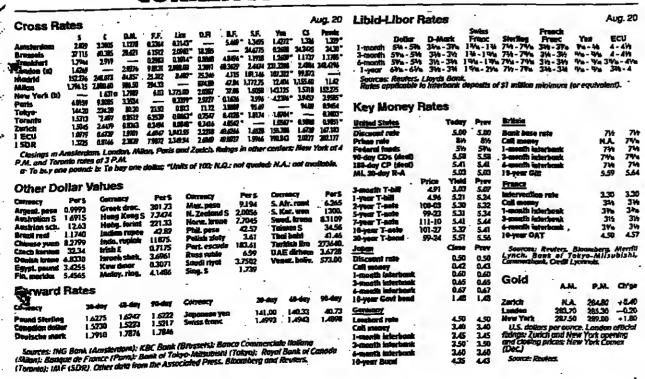
That was up from 72 perceot in the mid-1990s and 69.6 percent in the late 1980s. What is more, the median period between jobs fell to 4.1 weeks from 5.1 in the mid-1990s and 6.1 in the late

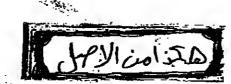
The latest survey also documented trends in downsizing that have characterized the 1990s. The job loss rate for women in the latest three-year period was nearly as high as for men: 6.5 percent of adult women employed versus 6.7 percent for men. Whites, blacks and Hispanics are also gradually converging, with the white displace-ment rate at 6.1 percent in the latest survey, blacks at 7.1 percent and Hispanics at 8.8 percent. The spread was

twice as great in the late 1980s. Since the last survey, in 1996, the layoff rate among manufacturing workers has declined slightly, while that for service workers has edged up, continuing trends that go back to the 1980s, when they were much more pro-

Still, blue-collar workers are more likely to be laid off, with 1 of 20 bluecollar workers losing jobs in the latest three-year period, compared with 1 in full-time workers laid off in the latest

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES





THE AMERICAS

1.75

US.

US.

U.S.

U.S.

U.S.

Totonto

Very briefly:

ended July 31.

Jan. 1, 1992 = 100

World Index

Ania/Pacific

N. America

S. America

Industrial Indexes

Capital goods

Europe

Finance

The Trib Index

Exchance

Investor's America

The Dow

S&P-500

S&P 100

TSE Index

IPSA General

Capital General

employees and total work force of 116,000.

Sept. 25 to shareholders of record on Sept. 11.

228.00

250.83

256.78

227.12

Bovespa

NYSE Composite

0-Year T-Bond Yield

Prev

Close

8683.28

1098.06

542.17

550.05

1842.69

665.59

6511.90

3598.14

47Q.13

3754.39

3803.56

8536.18 -6.38

Change

-0.94

-0.59

-0.67

-0.70

-0.56

-0.30

-2.45

Dollar in Yen

8611.41

1091,60

6421.40

3498.81

441.83

3662.22

3466.64

538.54

736

Nasdaiq Composite 1832.44

· General Motors Corp.'s international service-parts di-

vision agreed to sell Dana Corp. products under the AC Delco

brand name in Japan, where the companies are trying to gain

market share. Terms of the alliance between the world's

• AT&T Corp., the largest phone company in the United States, said 8,700 managers left in June under an early retirement offer. AT&T has a total of 55,000 management

Celestial Seasonings Inc. approved a 2-for-1 stock split in

the form of a 100 percent common stock dividend, payable

• Exxon Corp. agreed to sell a motor-oil additive unit to

Chevron Corp. to win federal anotrust approval for a joint venture with Royal Dutch/Shell Group.

. H&R Block Inc.'s first-quarter loss narrowed by 20 percent

as its acquisition of Option One Mortgage Corp. helped revenue more than double. The largest tax-preparation firm in

the United States posted a loss of \$27.7 million for the quarter

+ 0.47

- 2.87

-1.49

-6.07

-1.97

- 1.21

— 2.34

The International Herald Tribune World Stock Index O tracks the U.S. dollar value of 280 strengtionally superable stocks from 25 countries.

Prices as of 4:00 PM, New York time

-0.92

+0.63

-1.24

-0.59

-5.61

-0.76

-0.53

-- 0.57

+ 9.46

-21.46

+ 18.11

+ 16.13

-33.06

+ 24.31

+8.29

+ 9.04

— 1.84

+ 2.62

-7.10

AMEX Composite 563.59

Dollar Slips On Hint of Intervention

NEW YORK - The dollar fell against the yen Thursday after a top Japanese official said the yen was still weak enough to prompt the government to buy yen with dollars.

The yen has risen almost 4 percent since Aug. 11, when it touched an 8-year low against the dollar.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Even so, it is still too weak and 'should be further corrected,' said Haruhiko Kuroda, the director-general of the Finance Ministry's international bureau.

The dollar recovered some of its losses in late trading on news that the United States had bombed terrorist targets in Sudan and Afghanistan. was at 143.125 yen, down from 144.005 yen late Wednesday.

Hugh Walshat, a senior trader at Commerzbank, said, "Nothing's changed fundamentally other than the perception that there will be some

type of massive intervention." Japanese officials continue to reinforce that perception, with the vice finance minister for international affairs, Eisuke Sakakibara, saying Thursday that the yen's rise largest automaker and fourth-largest auto-parts company were creates a "better environment" for intervention in support of the yen.

'Sakakibara is doing an astounding job of spooking the market," said Benjamin Strauss, senior cur-rency trader at Bank Julius Baer.

Japanese officials are pounding the dollar verbally and not letting up. The market is a little bit con-cerned that they have something up their sleeve and might intervene. The Bank of Japan last intervened to support the yen, with the U.S. authorities, on June 17, when the

dollar was trading near 142.00 yen. The dollar rose against the Deutsche mark after a Russian central bank official said some of the country's biggest banks could run

short of cash to meet obligations.

Concern that German banks, which have lent Russia about \$30 billion, would be hurt by Russia's financial problems has supported the dollar in recent weeks.

The dollar rose to 1,7989 DM in 4

P.M. trading from 1.7981 DM Wednesday. Against other currencies, the dollar rose to 6.0300 French francs from 6.0265 francs and fell to 1.5058 Swiss francs from 1.5060 francs. The pound rose to \$1.6310

(Bloomberg, Bridge News)

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Chipmakers Make Wall Street Stumble

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches NEW YORK - Stocks fell

Thursday as a flurry of bad news in the computer-chip sector disrupted a technology-led rebound that started on Monday and Tuesday. Semiconductor stocks fell for a

second day after an influential analyst at Merrill Lynch, Thomas Kurlak, cut his rating on Intel. Meanwhile. National Semiconductor, another chipmaker, said its losses would widen in coming quarters.

The news raised concern that earnings forecasts for other computer-related companies may be too optimistic. "There is so much confusion about earnings in the second half of the year that it's going to be difficult for the market to go up' until companies provide more information about the outlook for profits, said Robert Streed, a money

manager for Northern Trust. The Dow Jones industrial aver-ge finished 81.87 points lower, at At 4 P.M. in New York, the dollar 8,611.41. Declining issues out-as at 143.125 yen, down from numbered advancers by a 9-to-5 margin on the New York Stock Exchange. The Standard & Poor's 500stock index slid 6.46 points to 1,091.60. The Nasdaq composite index fell 10.25 points to 1,832.44.

Intel, the world's largest maker of computer chips, fell 3 9/16 to 86 after Mr. Kurlak cnt his rating on the stock, citing falling prices and ample supply of high-end computer chips. He also downgraded Texas Instruments stock, which fell 11/2 to 581/2.

losses would increase in coming quarters because of weak demand for chips that go into computers and mobile phone

Dominick's Supermarkers shares

U.S. STOCKS

soared 61/2 to 46 after the retail chain said it hired an investment bank to help it evaluate strategic alternatives including acquisitions, mergers or other transactions after it received unsolicited expressions of interest from rivals.

Treasury bonds rose for the first time in four days as financial tumult in Russia and Latin America

Some investors say U.S. stocks are unlikely to fall much more, given that the yield on the 30-year Treasury bond Monday hit 5.50 percent, the lowest since the government began regular sales of bonds in 1977.

'All bear markets in this century, with the possible exception of 1962, were associated with rising interest rates," said Courtney Smith, chief investment officer for Orbitex Mangement. She expects stocks to rise in coming days because "we've priced

in the slowdown in earnings. But some analysts say the mar-

National Semiconductor fell 2 3/ bolstered demand for U.S. securities ket's problems have not gone away. 16 to 11 7/16 after it warned that as a refuge. The benchmark 30-year They point out that Asia is still in a Treasury hand rose 19/32 point to 99 25/32, pushing its yield down to 5.51 percent from 5.56 percent. the Monica Lewinsky matter.

There could be even more bad news on the way. In about a month, some of the nation's biggest compames could be warning that thirdquarter sales and profits have not lived up to expectations.

The economic fundamentals that led to the correction are still very much in place," said Bruce Steinberg, chief economist at Mer-rill Lynch. 'Indeed, they are getting' worse." Mr. Steinberg expects the global slowdown to last well into (AP, Bloomberg)

Fight Over Depositions Delays Microsoft Trial Department and 20 states that have preme Court to overturn the appear

WASHINGTON — The antitrust

trial of Microsoft Corp. will be delayed for two weeks and will begin Sept. 23, a federal judge decided Thursday.

The postponement was prompted by legal wrangling over a move by ws organizations to permit the public to attend pretrial depositions

U.S. District Judge Thomas Pen-

sued the company.

A federal appeals court ruled late Wednesday that the testimony would take place behind closed

Microsoft said it was prepared to make its chairman, Bill Gates, available for deposition.

In another development, Lee Levine, who represents The New York Times and other news organizations

court ruling closing the depositions. Justice Department lawyers said they would be willing to begin taking Mr. Gates's deposition as early as Friday, provided the questioning

took place on the East Coast David Boies, the Justice Department's outside trial lawyer, said hehad other court appearances that would prevent him from going to Seattle until later next week for the deposition. The timing of the prefield Jackson granted the delay, seeking to open the depositions to deposition. The timing of the pre-which was agreed to by both the press coverage, said his clients were software giant and the U.S. Justice considering appealing to the U.S. Su-

US West Starts Talks on Strike

The Associated Press

DENVER — Negotiators for U S West Inc. and its major union started a dialogue Thursday aimed at ending a strike and sending about 34,000 employees back to work.

The meeting with Jim Ma-hon, a federal mediator, was the first session the two sides have held since the Communications Workers of America went on strike Sunday, the first walkout in the 14-year history of U S West. A company spokesman said the negotiators have decided against discussing any of the issues publicly, while the talks are under way.

Mr. Mahon has been working with the negotiators to try to settle several key issues, including mandatory overtime, a performance-pay

Barnes & Noble to Sell Net Stake

NEW YORK --- Barnes & Noble Inc, said Thursday that it planned to sell stock in its money-losing online division, barnesandnoble.com, in a move that will raise cash to help it compete with Amazon.com.

Barnes & Noble, the world's Amazon.com has never made money largest bookseller, said it would file and its sales are a fraction as large. a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission in the next 30 days for an initial public offering of barnesand-noble.com stock. The company said the registration was subject to market conditions in the next month.

competition between Amazon.com, the market leader, and barnesandnoble.com. Books are the top-selling item on the Internet. But Amazon.com is expanding be-

into an array of shopping services. minuscule revenues

Amazon.com has a total stock never earned a cent. market value of more than \$6 billion, more than the combined market capitalizations of Barnes & Noble and the No. 2 U.S. bookseller, Borders Group Inc. -- eveo though

Bertelsmann AG, the German media giant, is starting its own online bookstore, BooksOnline, in the United States and Europe this auturnn and has said it will spend heavily to support it.

A spokeswoman for Barnes &

The announcement comes amid Noble, Mary Ellen Keating, said a 20 percent stake in the on-line mit would be sold, but she declined to provide other details.

The offering would come amid

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

minuscule revenoes and often have

Amazon's shares have surged almost tenfold the past year on optimism that the company has established a clear lead and will prosper as on-line book sales explode. On-line commerce worldwide is expected to boom to more than \$400 billion by 2002 from \$12.4 billion last year as more consumers jump on-line, according to International Data Corp.

The announcement by Barnes & Noble helped the company's stock-rise \$3.00, to \$40.25, on the New York Stock Exchange.

Also on Thursday, Barnes & Noble posted a second-quarter loss of \$5.71 million, compared with a loss of \$1.37 million a year earlier. The loss was caused by the results ar keen demand for Internet-related the on-line division, which had an, yond books, now including music stocks. Investors are looking at operating loss of \$23 million. The on its Web site. Just last week, the these stocks as a down payment on company's overall sales for the Scattle-based company said its purthe Internet's future, even if the quarter rose to \$675 million from

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ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BOND (LIFFE) GERMAN MARK (CMER) CAC 40 (MATTE)

PARIS — The sale of shares in Air France, originally planned for antumn, will be delayed until early next year as negotiations with the pilots drag on past their scheduled Aug. 31 deadline, the Transport

Ministry said Thursday

The stock market slump, the introduction of Europe's single currency in January and the possibility that Air France could buy France's No. 2 airline, AOM, are all complicating the plan for an initial public offering of 20 percent of the state-owned company's shares, according to news reports.

This is the second delay for the share sale in as many months. The Transport Ministry said in July that Air France's mittal public offering would have to be pushed back until after September to give the carrier sufficient time to work out equity agreements with pilots. The state plans to sell-20 percent of Europe's third-largest airline to investors, and an additional 10 percent to pilots. By next year up to 49 percent of Air France's capital could be on the

"The steps leading to the opening of capital are going ahead normally, but there will likely be a bit of a delay," said Odile Chamussy, a spokeswoman for the Transport Ministry. She predicted that because of the August holidays, talks probably will not conclude until September.

After a nine-day strike in June. pilots and management reached an agreement effectively to freeze wages for seven years and give pilots the option of taking some pay in

The walkout will slash 1998-99 profit by I billion francs (\$166 million), Air France said this week.

net profit rose 20 percent for the first



Russians lining up Thursday at the general prosecutor's office in Moscow to complain about difficulty receiving cash from banks.

Bayer's Net Falls 14% As Sales in Asia Drop

LEVERKUSEN, Germany income on Thursday as reorganization charges and lower sales in Asia depressed profit.

The German chemical and drug maker said second-quarter profit fell billion in the same quarter last year.

Like rival chemicals makers, including BASF AG and Akzo Nobel NV, Bayer suffered from declining revenue in recession-hit Asian countries. Sales in Asia dropped 8 of currencies in the region and less

'The second quarter was not great for Bayer, but a lot of it is market problems, not necessarily problems seldorf, who said he would keep his "buy" rating on the company. "All

tongne-lashing from two centrist

political figures who head Duma

the Our House is Russia bloc, who

was prime minister until President

Boris Yeltsin fired him in March,

said, "We have no government in

Russia today. The government and

naturally the central bank are guilty

Grigori Yavlinsky, head of the

Viktor Chernomyrdin, head of

in all, it's still on track."

The company said it still expected Bayer AG posted an unexpected 14 to achieve its previous forecast of percent drop in second-quarter net increasing sales and earnings by 4 percent in the whole of 1998, helped by 'high demand and lower raw-

terials prices." "We are also assuming that the Asian crisis will have only a limited to 870 million Deutsche marks impact on the world economy, (\$482.7 million) from 1.01 billion Bayer said. It said the drop in profit DM a year ago, Second-quarter sales was "mainly due to restructuring fell to 14.05 billion DM from 14.19 charges." It said the drop in profit was "mainly due to restructuring was "mainly due to restructuring charges.'

Bayer shares fell 5.15 DM to 74.15 DM.

A large part of the restructuring costs arose in North America, where percent because of the falling value Bayer closed part of its Baytown, Texas, plant, said a company spokesman, Guenter Forneck. The company also is restructuring its chemicals units and said in June it was combining units making inorat Bayer," said Christian Faitz, an ganic chemicals, such as pigments analyst at HSBC Trinkaus in Dusfor concrete, with fine-chemical products such as those used in photo processing, in a move to cut costs.

Leave Rates Flat

Bloomberg News

FRANKFURT — The Bundes-bank and the Bank of France left

interest rates unchanged Thursday.

vacation, the German central bank

set its benchmark securities repur-

chase rate at 3,30 percent until the

tandem with Germany, also left its

low in Germany, most analysts are

convinced interest rates in Germany

and France will not rise until the

Klaus-Dieter Kuehbacher, stressed

benchmark rate at 3.30 percent.

France, which usually moves in

With annual inflation at a 10-year

A Bundeshank council member,

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6.55 17.55 10.20 4.15 4.43 4.50 10.10 7.95 5.15

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council meets on Sept. 3.

final quarter of the year.

Reconvening after a four-week

Investor's Europe London Paris FISE 100 Index CAC 40 Close Chang AEX 1,187.58 1,199.94 -1:03 3,466.56 3,476.05 -0.27 8EL-26 **BAX** 5,488.22 5,596.41 -1.63 sp : Stock Market ... 685.07 - 699.16 -1.17 HEX General 4.979.12 5,066.09 -1.73 573.77 590.63 2.85 FTSE 100. . . . 5,667,48 5,894.30 -0:47 877.85 892.02 1.59 Stock Exchange 23839 23957 MIBTEL ! 4,097.49 4,125.72 0,93 CAC 40 SX 16 4,073.51 4.111.52 0.92 1,367.40 1,389.32 1.58 ATX SPI 4,801.97 14,863.78...-1.27

Very briefly:

 Royal Nedlloyd Group NV, a Dutch shipping company. announced a net loss of 34 million guilders (\$16.7 million) for **Germany and France** the first half of 1998 as the Asian financial crisis continued to hurt cargo shipping to the region.

• KLM Royal Dutch Airlines NV said it would seek an injunction Monday to stop some of its pilots from striking in support of a planned strike by pilots at Northwest Airlines

Corp., its biggest partner. •Swisscom AG, Switzerland's state-owned telephone company, said first-half earnings rose 13.9 percent to 1.13 billion Swiss francs (\$748.7 million) because of increased mobilephone use, but it predicted full-year sales and earnings would

slow as competition increased. SAirGroup, the operator of the Swiss national airline, Swissair AG, said its first-half profit rose by 16.5 percent to 127 million Swiss francs, driven by buoyant European and

• Britain's gross domestic product rose by 0.5 percent in the

second quarter of 1998 as economic growth rose by 2.6 percent on a 12-month comparison.

Independent Television Network of Britain, known as ITV, is being investigated by the Office of Fair Trading, the country's competition regulator, for its refusal to supply its channels to a digital service being launched by the satellite broadcaster British Sky Broadcasting Group PLC.

· Cahle & Wireless PLC, Britain's second-largest phone company, said it would sell its 25 percent stake in Mobile

RUSSIA: An Appeal for Calm as Officials Fear Bank Run

Continued from Page 13

"It is necessary to save not only a dozen of the top banks, but hundreds demand has picked up for appli-of stable midsized and small ances, which are seen as a hedge banks," said Alexander Shokhin, a leader of the centrist Our Home is

Russia faction in parliament. Mr. Dubinin announced that the central bank would insure deposits at private commercial banks, as long

as they make special deals with Sperbank, which is already insured. He appealed to Russians to "go through the difficult period of financial crisis, remaining calm." Profit Rises but ABN-AMRO Cites Risks

ers. This includes a special 365 mil-

AMSTERDAM - ABN-AMRO lion guilder provision for increased Holding NV said Thursday that its risks in Indonesia and elsewhere. "ABN-Amro has many ties in half of 1998, to 2.44 billion guilders Indonesia and is one of the banks

There have been no outward signs pushed out of international cooper-of a bank run, although lines have ation," he said. The lower house of Parliament, been forming to get dollars, and the State Duma, controlled by Communists and nationalists, is returnagainst the ruble's deterioration. The ruble-dollar exchange rate, ing for a special session Friday.
On the eve of the meeting, the which was 6.3 ruhles to the dollar government of Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko came in for a last week, appeared to be settling Thursday at about 7 rubles per dollar in Moscow. The government effec-

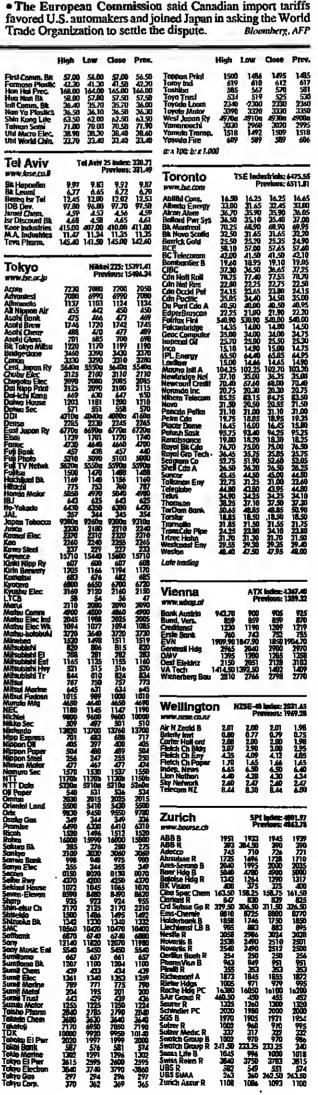
Monday by allowing it to shrink. Meanwhile, there were new frictions on Thursday between Western and Russian bankers. The threemonth debt moratorium announced along with the ruble devaluation caught Western creditors by surprise, and some have suggested that for what happened." it will wreck Russia's credit on

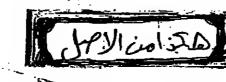
tively devalued the currency on

world markets for years to come. Mr. Aleksashenko, the central bank official, charged that as soon as the moratorium was in place, West-said, "dug this pit, and now the Strong growth and more inflation

Yahloko centrist hloc, said the gov- this week that there is "no reason for ernment was leading Russia into a a rate rise, especially not in Gerdead end. Mr. Chernomyrdin, he many.

(\$1.2 hillion), led by income commissions and loans. But the biggest Dutch bar creased its provisions for loan.	from which will be hit the n their other international	operations" transactions with there, said counterparts, ent of Leo "It seems to	to cut off routine Kiriyenko th their Russian ing into the never reali us that this is a Russian	government is descend- e pit, And it will probably ze what happened to the economy until it has aga	countries like Ireland and inger money supply growth for euro area as a whole "argue inst letting the peripherals do all convergence," he added.	Telephone Networks Holdings Pty. about £257 million (\$416.4 million) in c • The European Commission said Ca favored U.S. automakers and joined Japa Trade Organization to settle the dispute.	of South Africa for eash, madian import tariffs in in asking the World
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CARESSING THE DAMASK COVERLET

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he reflected misty-eyed on times past. Fifty years it had been since he had slept with his beloved wife in this very same suite. It had been their wedding night. How he wished she were there now. Half a ceptury ago, and yet it seemed like yesterday. Tears

spraog unbidden as recollections of their honeymoon, fresh as the Orchids on the bedside table, bloomed in his memory. The scent

and soft colours of the room captured his reminiscences causing

time to stand still. A geotle koock at the door roused him from his reverie. Opening it, he found a Bell Boy laden with shiny

not that latel' chirruped a voice in the corridor. And in skipped

Ruffles Hotel, I Beach Road. Singapore 189673, Tel: (65) 112 1880. Fax. (65) 339 7650. E.ma2: raffle

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ASIA/PACIFIC

San Miguel **May Sell Its Profitable Dairy Stake**

MANILA - San Mignel Corp., the Philippines' largest food and beverage company, said Thursday it was in talks to let Nestle SA of Switzerland take full control of a joint dairy venture that provided al-most half of San Miguel's 1997

No agreement has been reached on the possible divestment of San Miguel's 45 percent stake in Nestie Philippines Inc., said a senior vice president, Francis Jardeleza, in a letter to the Philippine Stock Exchange. A board meeting Friday could decide the matter.

If it sells out to the world's largest foodmaker, San Mignel would give up several brands it built into market leaders, including Magnolia ice cream. In exchange, it may receive at least 25 billion Philippine pesos (\$582.5 million), analysts estimated, adding to a cash pile swelled by the sale last month of holdings in the European bottler Coca-Cola Bever-

ages PLC.
"It's the second jewel that's being sold off by San Mignel," said Dipak Jethwa, an analyst at OCBC Securities Philippines Inc. "How these funds will be used is the next

San Miguel's B shares rose 2 pesos, to 49 pesos, in Thursday's

Investors seemed generally pleased that the company was get-ting out of the food business to concentrate on what made the 108-yearold conglomerate successful; beer.

'This is not part of a cash-raising for debt," said Raoul Perez, an analyst at Sapphire Securities Inc. This is a general change in

San Miguel's chairman, Eduardo Cojuangco, who took over from Andres Soriano 3d in July, had said he wanted the company to sell assets so it could pare debts. Most investors mean that the company would dispose of money-losing beer opera- last year's top earner, Toyota Motor

at Abacus Securities Corp. "San Miguel will have a lot more earnings power with the debt gone."

Japan Trade Surplus Rises 56.8%

Ichinohe, a senior economist at the Japan Research Institute. "That is

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TOKYO — Japan's trade sur-plns for July surged 56.8 percent from a year earlier, marking the 16th consecutive monthly rise as a clear sign Japan's economic the yen depreciates and domestic demand slackens, the Finance

ministry said. Exports rose 6.6 percent, to 4.56 trillion yen, while Asian countries dropped 16.0 per-imports tumbled 5.7 percent, to cent, to 1.536 trillion yen, while 3.25 trillion yen.

The Japanese trade surplus with the United States jumped 59.7 percent, to 669.7 billion yen, rising for the 22d conception. the 22d consecutive month.

"Although the overall value of

strength has begun to wane." The Japanese trade surplus with Ministry said Thursday.

The trade surplus rose to 1.316
trillion yen (\$9.12 billion), the billion yen, falling for the fifth consecutive month. Exports to

> cent, to 1.536 trillion yen, while and imports fell 7.0 percent, to 1.178 million yen. In trade with the European Un-ion, Japan's surplus rocketed 174.5

percent to 377.1 hillion yen.

volume of both Japan's exports and imports was down," said Michio mohile exports bolstered the overmohile exports bolstered the overall exports in the month hy 1.6

■ Report Lifts LTCB Shares

Shares in Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan Ltd. rose 9 yen, or 19 percent, to 56 yen Thursday after a newspaper reported the government may spend public money to bail it out, Bloomberg News reported. But Prime Minister Keizo Ohu-

chi denied the report in the Nihon Keizai Shimhun in testimony to Parliament on Thursday. The report said the government "A decline in exports to Asia bolster LTCB's capital before its

the surplus gained thanks to the was offset by expanding sales to proposed merger with Sumitomo weak yen against the dollar, the Europe and North America, Trust & Banking Co.

Sales in West Boost Honda Profit

TOKYO — Honda Motor Co. said Thursday its first-quarter net profit rose 25 percent as healthy sales in the United States and Europe offset slumping sales in Japan and the rest of Asia.

Honda said group net income for the three months through June rose to a record 78.22 hillion yen (\$542.3 million) from 62.2 billion yen a year earlier. Sales increased 12 percent, to 1.595 trillion yen. United States and 17 percent in new model Civic Aero deck in Europe in the quarter, more than offsetting an 8.3 percent drop in

Japan, the company said. The effects of the buoyant overseas sales were magnified by the down 3.2 percent, to 194.3 billion dollar's strength against the yen, yen. Sales declined across Asia but Honda said. The dollar was worth rose in Europe and Brazil, the U.S. rating agency's highest.

about 13 percent more against the yen in the first quarter than a year ago, which bolstered profit in yen terms. Although car sales were higher

by value they fell in number, slipping 0.3 percent, to 571,000 units, mainly because of the poor market in Japan and Sontheast Asia. But sales by unit rose 11.5 per-

North America. "Increased sales of the Civic Inc. on concern falling sales in sedan and the CR-V in the United Asia would eat into profit. Sales increased 12 percent in the States as well as the CR-V and a

> Europe were major contributors to this increase," the company said. Honda's motorcycle business did not perform so well, with sales

Honda shares rose 60 yen on Thursday, or 1.2 percent, to close (Bridge News, AFP)

■ Toyota's Rating Is Cut

The biggest Japanese antomaker, Toyota Motor Corp., had cent in Europe and 8.3 percent in its long-term debt rating cut Thursday by Moody's Investors Service

The downgrade, one day after Moody's lowered ratings on the debt of No. 2 Nissan Motor Co. and No. 4 Mitsubishi Motors Corp., affects about \$11.8 billion in long-term debt, Moody's said. Toyota's rating was downgraded to "Aa1" from "Aaa," the

BOJ Leads in List of Japan's Top Earners will be difficult to match the record profit in 1998-99." The managing directors

gence France-Presse had interpreted those remarks to any of the nation's companies in the

in the Philippines.

The Bank of Japan, which is the Philippines.

The Bank of Japan, which is the Particular of South Percent owned by private shareholdness from the balance sheet perspectors, declared 931.1 billion years.

(\$6.45 hillion) in taxable income, up 59 percent from the previous year, according to the private research firm Teikoku Data Bank.

agency said

companies that earned 40 million years, Teikoku said. yen or more in the last financial

Bank of Japan reaped a large profit counter market.

Toyota's income was 583.8 bil- because of foreign-exchange gains TOKYO — The Bank of Japan lion yen, followed by the telecomany of the nation's companies in the year ended March 31, outstripping 255.3 hillion yen, the research as corporate earnings have declined amid Japan's economic slump. tions in China and agricultural units in the Philippines.

Corp., a survey showed Thursday.

Teikoku's rankings were based There were 80,874 companies with on public data released by Japanese 40 million yen or more in taxable tax anthorities regarding domestic income, the lowest number in 10

> The Finance Ministry holds 55 percent of the central bank's shares The research agency said 'the and the rest is traded on the over-the- and nucertainty in the market in the

Qantas Posts Record Profit In Bad Times

SYDNEY — Qantas Airways Ltd. posted a record profit for its latest financial year on Thursday, but the Australian airline warned that the economic situation in Asia would hurt profit in the current year. Qantas profit rose 21 percent, to

304.8 million Australian dollars (\$182.3 million).
The result was achieved despite

the regional economic downturn that forced the airline to trim services to Asian centers in the second half, reducing sales for the year by almost 8 percent, to 8.1 billion dollars.

The results stunned an industry where many of Qantas's regional competitors are in trouble or verging on bankruptcy and sent the airline's share price up 11.9 cents, nearly 5 percent, to 2.509 dollars.

'It was an excellent result, and reflects their cost control measures and a focus on profitable routes," said Eric Betts, a Nomura Australia strategist, who said Qantas had a history of pleasantly surprising the markeL

"They've deployed their assets in a very efficient way, and it's a very commendable result."

The chairman of the airline, Gary Pemberton, said the record profit had been achieved in difficult conditions through careful management

and stringent cost-cutting.
"The timely rationalization of our Asian services together with the reallocation of capacity to stronger routes has reduced the adverse im-

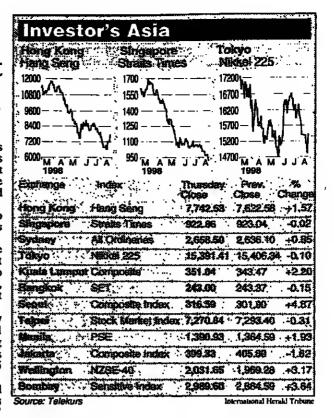
pact during the year," he said. But he warned that the region's woes would have an impact on future profitability.

"Becanse of the uncertain market conditions, we are not making specific profit predictions," he said. 'However, all indications are that it will be difficult to match this year's

The managing director, James Strong, said that Qantas's secret was to carefully monitor and tweak operations according to the prevailing conditions.

Yes, there is a downward force in the market, there's no doubt about that," he said, "but it comes down to how well we run the whole business and how well we handle those conditions."

Mr. Pemberton said that massive seat-dumping from ailing Asian air-lines would lead to more volatility (AP, AFP)year ahead.



Very briefly:

Indonesia opened a commercial court to administer a new bankruptcy law in an effort, prompted by the International Monetary Fund, to jump-start the private sector and get the economy moving. The law requires bankruptcy cases to be settled within 30 days, allowing 30 days for appeal.

• PT Telkom, the Indonesian domestic telephone monopoly, swung to a loss of 1.18 trillion rupiah (\$97.2 million) in the first half of 1998 as foreign-exchange costs surged after the collapse of the rupiah. The loss matched expectations but compared with a profit of 820 billion rupiah a year earlier.

 Acer Computer International Ltd., a Singapore-based unit of Acer Inc. of Taiwan, said first-half profit fell 98 percent from a year earlier, to 352,000 Singapore dollars (\$200,000), because of a sharp decline in computer sales amid the Asian financial crisis.

 Nan Ya Plastics Corp., the largest plastics maker in Taiwan and a unit of Formosa Plastics Group, said pretax profit fell 28.1 percent in the first half, to 3.1 billion Taiwan dollars (\$89.3 million) as demand from Asia fell and its interest burden increased as the local currency weakened.

• Fuji Photo Film Co. hrushed aside a U.S. report that the Japanese market for photographic film still contained barriers to foreign competitors like Eastman Kodak Co., calling on Washington to end its complaints after a World Trade Organization decision in Japan's favor early this year.

 Exports of Singapore-made goods fell in July by 2.3 percent from a year earlier, more than analysts had expected, amid the Asian economic slowdown.

 South Korean regulators backed away from threats to sonn close seven major banks — Cho Hung Bank, Commercial Bank of Korea, Hanil Bank, Korea Exchange Bank, Peace Bank Korea, Coungbuk Bank and Kangwon Bank — saying they would instead ask them to redouble rehabilitation efforts by the end of September.

• Stanton Group of the United States has earmarked \$1 billion to expand its joint-venture oil refinery in North Korea, South Korean officials said.

ASLA: Government Buying to Buoy Markets Causes Misgivings

Continued from Page 1

were now 'distorted and manipulated." objective," he said. "He has an objective of attempting to rig prices."

Government finance officials defended the intervention as needed to fend Coff manipulators who had "little regard to the economic fundamentals of Hong Kong and the extent of the market adjustments that have already taken

place." "I have considerable sympathy for their intentions - we're really in a situation which is terrible," said Deep Kapur, market strategist at Salomon Smith Barney in Singapore. "Unfor-tunately I'm very skeptical wbether it will be possible to translate these good intentions into anything meaningful, given the way the markets work."

The precedents of market intervention in Asia do not sngur well: For a few weeks in May 1997, Thailand managed to muscle out speculators attacking its currency. But the victory was Pyhrric. Faced with dwindling reserves the country was forced to devalue a few weeks later, the first in a string of Southeast Asian devaluations.

When intense selling pressure hit the Clalaysian stock exchange last year, Mr. Mahathir announced the creation of a S20 billion stock exchange support fund. The plan quickly fizzled, and the

market continued to slide.

In Japan, the term "price-keeping operatioo" was invented to describe 'There's been a major huyer out Tokyo's numerous stock market interhave done little to shore up the real

Like Hong Kong, the Japanese government had ample funds at its disposal. But in the long run, the Tokyo stock market has been unable to shake off the shadow of its recession-bound econ-

"This is like taking Valium when you've been diagnosed with AIDS," Mr. Kaye said of intervention. "It may make you feel better, but it's not doing

anything for the underlying problem. And it could potentially make things much worse because if there's one thing that Hong Kong does not need now is an abandonment of the international financial community," he said "And I think that's a very substantial risk."

Not everyone says that the intervention in Hong Kong was a bad thing. 'The market was getting out of bal-

ance," Jim Mellon, chairman of Regent Pacific Group Ltd., told CNBC. "You had the growth of new derivatives, you had a very big increase of direct short selling in Hong Kong, and there weren't offsetting buyers for the Hong Kong

The question now for Hong Kong is what it plans to do with its significant share holdings. Selling them in the nearterm would put more downward pres-

And if the government huys more stocks, Mr. Mellon said, "they will be digging themselves into a rather entrenched position that will become rather awkward and difficult to unwind, with all the conflicts of interests that go along with baving a big position in your own stock market."

■ Hong Kong Recession

The Hong Kong chief executive, Tung Chee-hwa, confirmed Thursday that the economy was in recession, saying official data due out next week would show a contraction in economic growth in the second quarter, Agence

France-Presse reported. Speaking to the Australian Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Tung also said that the third- and fourth-quarter growth figures would be poor and that the problem would continue into 1999.

'Our second-quarter GDP growth figure will come out next week and it will be negative," Mr. Tung said. "The third quarter and the fourth quarter will be very, very difficult and the diffi-culties will go well into next year."

The Hong Kong economy shrank 2.8 percent in the first quarter of 1998, and two successive declines in quarterly GDP constitute a recession.



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BANKRUPT: Suicide and Hiding Are on the Rise in Japan

Continued from Page 13

ing that you must return." Companies often try to get rid of employees who have declared personal bankruptcy, said another bankruptcy attorney, Hideo Yamada. The companies fear such a person will sully their repu-

tation, he said. Legally they can't fire a person be-cause of bankruptcy. But if be gets calls from credit companies at work, then they can use that as an excuse to get rid of him," arguing that it is disrupting work, Mr. Yamada said.

So instead of filing for bankruptcy, may people pack up their belongings in the middle of the night and move to another part of Japan. People from cities move to the countryside, where they try to get work as day laborers, while people in the rural areas try to disappear in the cities, as waiters or janitors, according to attorneys.

Some eventually get caught, particularly if they get sick and must apply for national health insurance, or if they need to enroll their children in school. Others come weary of being away from their Smily and friends and return to file for bankruptcy and face their creditors.

"I hear that those small construction company owners, some of them have run away, because they have so little work but they still must pay their employees," said Kazuharu Ezawa, an executive with the Construction and General Workers Union.

One former owner of a sporting goods store in Shikoku, a small island south of Tokyo, ran away when he realized his store was insolvent. In a recent interview, he explained that be was afraid of loan sharks and also, "I was scared of being labeled a bankrupt per-

He changed his mind after his dangh-ter, whom he had contacted, persuaded

him to go to a lawyer. He has since successfully discharged his dehts through the courts and is now a taxi driver. He wrote a book on the ordeal, because, he said, he wanted to persuade others that it was far better to use the

bankruptcy courts than to disappear. But he used a pseudonym on the book

and refused to allow his real name to be I was once bankrupt," he said.

used in this story. "I don't want my neighbors to know

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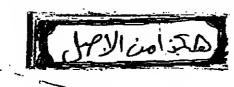
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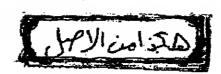
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United Buys Yorke

SOCCER Manchester United agreed Thursday to pay Aston Villa £12.6 million (\$20.51 million) transfer fee for striket Dwight Yorke. Yorke, a 26-year old Trinidadian had two years on his contract at English premier league rivals Villa. He signed a five-year contract with United.

 David Unsworth rejoined English premier league club Everton on Thursday, ending a long and at times farcical transfer wrangle. The central defender returned to his former cluh from Aston Villa in a £3 million deal.

Unsworth left Everton, in his nanve Liverpool, for West Ham, in London, last season. He joined Villa, which is in Birmingham. halfway between London and Liv-erpool last month. But, after driving home for the first time, he said he had made a "terrible mistake" and wanted to rejoin Everton, which had also tried to sign him. But Everton and Aston Villa then wrangled over the transfer payment. (AP)

 Blackhurn Rovers paid Derby County £5.35 million for Scottish World Cup player Christian Dailly on Thursday. (Reuters)

Japanese Hire Troussier

SOCCER Philippe Troussier was hired Thursday to coach the Japanese national team.

The 43-year-old French coach has worked with national teams and clubs in South Africa, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Nigeria and Burkina Faso. He took Burkina Faso to fourth place in the African Nations Cup this year and then coached South Africa in the World Cup in France, where it drew with Denmark and Sandi Arabia. (AFP)

 Alain Boghossian headed an equalizer in the 84th minute to earn France a 2-2 draw against Austria in a friendly Wednesday. It was France's in its first match since it won the World Cup on July

Sri Lanka Wins Final

CRICKET Marvan Atapattu scored 132 not out Thursday as Sri Lanka beat England by five wickets with 17 balls to spare in the final of three-nation one-day series at alidharan, a spin bowler, took five wickets to restrict England innings to 256 runs for eight wickets.

 The organizers of the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur said Thursday that cricketers would be subject to drugs tests like everyone else. The Indian cricket board has said its players won't appear for tests.

WORLD ROUNDUP Nool Gives Estonians A Long-Awaited Gold

The Associated Press BUDAPEST - Erki Nool gave Estonia its first gold medal since 1934 in the European track-and-field championships when he came from behind Thursday to win the decathlon.

Nool secured the gold with a javelin throw of 70.65 meters. Nool, who was sixth after six events.

cleared 5.40 meters in the pole vault and then had the hig javelin throw to take the lead for good. He ended with a winning total of 8,667 points.

Eduard Hamalainen of Finland, who had led in the middle stages of the competition, took the decathlon silver with 8,592 points. He was more than 15 meters behind Nool in the javelin, the penultimate event in the decathlon. Lev Lobodin of Russia clinched the

hronze with \$,571 points.

The only gold medal Estonia had ever won before was in the inaugural cham-pionship in 1934, hy Arnold Viiding in

the shot put.
In the 400-meter hurdles, Pavel Januszewski of Poland surged ahead over the last hurdle to beat the favorite, Ruslan Mashchenko of Russia.

Mashchenko, who has the fastest time in Europe this year, lost his stride as Januszewski hurst ahead to win the

race in 48.17 seconds, well inside his previous best of 48.90.

Mashchenko, whose 48.06 remains the fastest in Europe, finished in 48.25 for the silver. Fabrizio Mori of Italy took the bronze in 48.71.

Yelena Afanasyeva of Russia won the women's \$00 meters in 1:58.50. Afanasyeva opened a hig lead to cruise home in the 800. Malin Ewerlof of Sweden was second in 1:59.61.

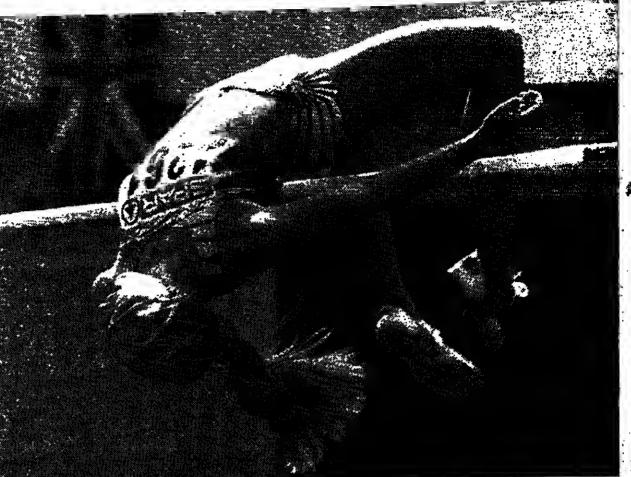
Annarita Sidoti regained her European Championship title and led a 1-2 Italian finish in the women's 10-kilometer walk. Vita Pavlish of Ukraine captured the

gold medal in the women's shot put with a heave of 21.69 meters, a championship record and the best in the world

'I am just so strong!" said Pavlish, who was silver medalist at last year's

■ Mexican Swimmer Banned

A Mexican swimmer, Erendira Villegas, was suspended from competition Thursday for four years after testing positive for anabolic steroids at the Central American Games, Agence France-Presse reported from Maracaibo,



Kajsa Bergqvist of Sweden high-jumping Thursday during the European championships in Budapest.

IOC Plans to Take Over Fight Against Drugs

It Proposes a Global Anti-Doping Agency

The Associated Press

LAUSANNE, Switzerland - The International Olympic Committee on Thursday proposed setting up an agency to coordinate the worldwide fight against performance-enhancing drugs.

The IOC executive board called for the creation of an "Olympic movement anti-doping agency" that would be re-sponsible for random, out-of-competi-

tion drug testing around the world.

The proposal was the highlight of a series of measures announced at the end of a one-day emergency meeting convened following the drug scandal in cycling and remarks by Juan Antonio Samaranch, the IOC president, suggest ing that the list of banned drugs should

At present, the IOC is directly responsible for testing only during the Olympic Games, with international sports federations supervising the doping controls the rest of the time.

Samaranch said the proposed agency would be funded by Olympic television revenue and would assist those international federations that cannot afford

regular drug-testing programs.

The agency would also help set up testing lahs in Africa and Central and South America and create a "flying lah" that would travel to major events around the world such as the Pan Am around the world, such as the Pan Am Games, African Games and Central American Games, to conduct testing.

The proposed agency will be put for-ward for approval at a special world-wide drug summit meeting in Lausanne in February.

"This agency will make us stronger than before," said Prince Alexandre de Merode, the IOC medical commission chairman. "To be united is a key success of the anti-doping fight."
"We will never win," he added.

"We will never eliminate doping. But we will not lose." Samaranch also explained remarks he had made in to a Spanish newspaper. suggesting that only drugs that are

harmful should be prohibited. 'I never said performance-enhancing drugs must be withdrawn from the list," he said. "I would like to ask the medical commission to review the list



DRUG PROBE - Marcello Lippi, coach of Juventus, arriving at the Italian Olympic Committee to answer queries on doping in soccer.

TOOL TIME "As for performance-enhancing drugs, there is not a single one that is not harming the health of the athletes."

De Merode, meanwhile, refused to retract comments made to a French newspaper about "tendencies toward doping" in Spanish sport. But he said

the comment applied to all countries. There is a tendency toward doping also in the United States, Britain and the whole wurld," he said. "It applies to everybody. Do you know a country where there isn't a tendency toward

doping? It doesn't exist." The IOC also appointed four task forces to investigate protection of ath-letes; financial questions; political and legal issues and ethics, prevention and

Wealthy U.S. Authorities Struggle To Afford Tests

By Amy Shipley

WASHINGTON - U.S. Olympic Committee is one of the wealthiest national Olympic bodies in the world, yet it is struggling to fund a credible drug control program.
USOC officials say there are holes in

its drug program. Athletes say they want tougher standards to catch users of performance enhancing drugs. Doctors affiliated with the committee say they lack the money to combat the problem.

Dick Schultz, the executive director. said that for the current quadrennium (1996 to 2000), the committee has allocated \$11.5 million, 2.7 percent of its \$425 million hudget, to drug control.

14 percent (\$60 million) goes to fundraising. He said the organization struggles to divide dollars appropriately between anti-doping programs that catch cheaters and athletic support programs that huild champions.

This year, Schultz said, the committee began a program of random testing at events. According to Schultz, the average drug test conducted hy the USOC, including in-competition and unannounced tests and all accompanying expenses, costs \$428.

The United States' no-notice testing program costs just over \$2 million a year. Before it existed, the USOC had little hope of catching drug users out of competition.

But of the 150 to 200 athletes in the

Olympic program who are chosen ran-domly each month, only about 80 are tested, according to Wade Exum, pro-gram director of the USOC's Drug Con-trol Administration, Many athletes, he said, slip through the cracks. Athletes avoid the tests, despite being

required to let their national governing bodies know of their whereabours daily. On other occasions, Exum said, arbletes are not tracked down because of the cost of doing it.

"You need more money," he said. "If we spend \$1,000 trying to get a test done, we will be browbeaten."

"It's a labor-intensive, very costly program." he added. "We're trying to do this economically."

Donald Catlin and Larry Bowers, onsultants for the USOC's anti-doping panel, said researchers worldwide are falling short of funds for research into performance-enhancing drugs. "Relative to what labs are asked to

do, the amount put toward research is woefully short," Bowers said.

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Schultz said the USOC had committed \$455,000 this year toward education and drug research. Bowers said that a single research project will cost. \$100,000 annually and that the USOC is "a factor of 10 low" in its contribu-

For years, Catlin has been working on test to determine whether excess testosterone in the body is naturally or artificially produced.

Catlin said, however, that his grant runs out this month and the project remains incomplete.

The amount of funding in this area is really minimal," he said. "One has to attract new people into the field. The only way to do that is through the funding mechanisms. Where those funds are, the talented scientists gravitate."

Athletes say they would like more money invested toward drug control even at their expense. The USOC gives stipends to athletes in the Olympic program. It also pays some travel costs and provides numerous other financial and training advantages.

'Financially, I could get hy without a monthly stipend," said Chris Witty, an Olympic silver medalist in speedskating and a world-class cyclist. "I would rather have a better drug-testing profair. If you stop other cheaters, it's easi-er to do well."

"More money needs to be invested in research," Schultz said. "I've talked to the IOC about it. But research can be a bottomless pit."

"Perhaps we can spend more money," he added, "but we have to take it away from somewhere else. Should we reduce the food at the training center? Eliminate the residential training program? What do we do? How do we come up with the rest of the dollars?"

No one denies that chasing cheaters is an expensive proposition. So is pro-ducing gold medal-winning athletes.

"If the USOC doesn't win medals, they don't get donations and they don't get corporate sponsors," said Ralph Hale, vice chairman of the committee's sports medicine panel. "Can they afford." to spend that much money at the expense of the athlete?

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HR—Betilingen, Burdick (6)

Sy—Wetheland (33).

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Petitite and Girardi, Pasada (3): Morgon.

Serafini (3), Trombley (7). Carrasca (8),

Aguillera (9) and Steinbach. W—Serafini, 6-4.

L—Petitite, 14-7. Sy—Aguillera (31).

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J.Thompson and Siddott; McDowell,

Hasegowa (3), Perdval (9) and Newin.

W—McDowell, 2-2. L—J. Thompson, 10-10.

Sy—Perdval (34).

Sv—Percival (34).
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Hentgen, Almanzar (6), Siteb (7) and
Fletcher, Datesander (7), KL, Brown 88;
Cloude, B. Wells (3), Aydia (5), Panlagua (7),
McCarithy (8), Siocumb (9) and J. Oliver,
W—Hentgen, 11-9, 1.—Cloude, 7-9, 5—Siteb
(1), HRy—Formito, S. Green 2 (25), C.
Delando 2 (25), Le Carz (6), Fielder (7). Herngen, 11-9, L.—Cloude, 7-9, 54—5100 HRs.—Toronto, S. Green 2 (25), C., Jado 2 (25), Jo.Cruz (6), Fietcher (7).

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Cincinned 199 600 001—8 12 0
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Harnisch, G. White (8) and Taubenseer
Woodard, Petrik (4), De Les Santos (6), M.
Myers (9) and Matthew, W.—Harnisch, 9-6.
L.—Woodard, 9-8. H.Rs.—Cincinneth, Casey
(3), Millwruttee, Vina (7).
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(10 Innings)-Bethenfield, Fruscature (6),
Croushore (7), Painter (7), Brantley (81,
Acevedo (9) and Marrero M.Clark, T. Adems
(6), F.Herefall (6), Karcher (7), Malholiand
(8), Wengert (10) and Houston, Servals (7).
W.—Acevedo, 6-2. L.—Mutholland, 3-4.
HRs.—St. Louis, McCakre 2 (40), R. Lankford
(21), DeShleida (5), Chicago, Sosa (48), H.

HRs.—St. Louis, McGwire 2 (49), R. Lenkford (22), DeShields (5), Chicogo, Sosa (48), H. Rodriguez (31), J. Hemandaz (19).

Los Angeles 000 002 000—5 6 2 Pittsburgh 002 820 20x—6 7 0 Bohdnon, Osuna (7) and C. Johnson; Van Poppel, MLWilliams (7), Chistiansen (9) and Kendal. W.—MLWilliams 3-1.

L.—Bohanon, 6-8. Sv.—Christiansen (5).

HR.—Pittsburgh, Ma. Martinez (6).

San Diege 000 000 000—0 11 1 Plerida 100 041 00x—6 10 0 Hitchcock. S. Sanders (6), Boehafringer (3) and Levritz, G. Myers (6); Meadows.

Hitchcock, S. Sanders (A), Boehanger (8) and Leyfiz, G. Myers (A); Meadows, Darensbourg (B), Edmondson (B) and Redmond, W—Meadows, 10-9, L—Hitchcock, 7-5, HR—Florida, Redmond (2).

Montheal 201 100 400—8 10 0 Arizana 000 001 100—2 4 2 Hermanson, Bermett (8), Urbhin (9) and Widger, Telemond, Chouland (7), F. Portisiders (1) and Sinnett, W—Hermanson. Widger: Telemoco, Chovingra Rodriguez (?) and Stinnett. W—Hen

Welliams (16).
Houston 900 011 002-4 11 8
Philiadelphia 000 000 300-3 7 1
Reynolds, B. Wagner (9) and Eusebia.
Loever, M. Leiter (8) and Esidelia.
W. Reynolds, 15-8. L.-M. Leiter 6-4. Sv.-B.

100 800 090-1 5 0 002 000 00x-2 6 2 BM.Jones, Leskonic (7) and Mare Yoshi, Cook (B), J. Franco (9) and Piczze.
W—Yoshi, S-6. L—BM_Jones, S-7. Sv—J.
Franco (27). HR—Colorado, D. Hornithan (3).
Sen Francisco 104 900 109—6 11 0
Alfaurte 800 929 900—2 7 0 Gardner, R. Rodriguez (7), Nen (9) and B. Chason: Glavine, De.Mortinez (6), A. Butler (8), Recker (9) and J. Lopez, W.—Gardner, 10-5, L.—Glavine, 16-5.

JAPANESE LEAGUES SPACE LEAGURE
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41 54 2 A32 145
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CRICKET

ENGLAND VS. SRI LANKA ONE-DAY TRIANGULAR SEREE THURSDAY, IN BRINGHAM, ENOLAND England: 256-8 (50 overs) Sri Lanka: 260-5 (47.1 overs)

Result: Sri Lanko won by 5 wickets. SOCCER

nia 1, Faroe Islands 0

Narway O, Romania O Cyprus 3, Albania 2 Austria 2, France 2 Portugal 2, Mazambia Slavakia O, Finland O

TRANSITIONS

Davidson.
CHIKADO WHITE SOX—Recalled LI-IP Tom Fordham from Colgory, PCL Optioned RHP Corlos Castillo to Colgory.
SEATTLS—Called up RHP Jose Pontogua from Tocoma. PCL. Sent RHP David Hold-ridge to Tocoma.
TEXAS—Assigned RHP Scott Bother to Diklahoma. PCL. Signed LI-IP Tony Fossos and assigned him to Diklahoma.
NATIONAL LEAGUE
CHICAGO CUBS—Signed 38 Gory Greatt. Op-

CHICAGO CUES-Signed 3B Gary Goetff. Op oned IMF Jose Nieves to lows, PCL. COLDRADO—Traded RHP David Curtes & e Atlanta Broves for a player to be named. NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

SACRAMENTO-Fired couch Eddle Jordon d assistant coach Mike Brote ONG DISSISTENT COOCH MINE BIOLIZ.

POSTRALL

MATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

BALTIMORE—Signed OT Wody Williams.
CINCHNATH—World S Cory Grisert. WR

Josen Tacker, LB Tign 7em; FB 7y

Douthard, OE Jeff Leanard and OT Derrick

Letter.

LeVake. GREEN SAY-Put LB Kealon Cromanie on JUCKSONVILLE_Waived OE Daryi Price. Signed LB Erik Storz and FB Ron Janes. Signed LE EIN SIZE del PE RON JO
Worlde FB JOSAN LIMESON
MIAMI-Waiwed S Braccy Walker,
Buller Byrinte and RB EINC Pegratil
PHILADELPHIA—Placed DE Mille Man
PHILADELPHIA—Placed DE Mille Man

on injured reserve list. Released WR Clyris T. SAN BIEGO-Signed CB Note Odomes to 1-year controct. Released LB Bast Centey. SAN FRANCISCO --Vicined T Dan Finn. CB Kelly Mohreoux. FB Adam Solina.

HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

AHAHEIM—Nomed George Burnett casist. of cooch.

CAROLINA—Signed F Scott Levins and F ndraw Luczik DETROIT—Signed RW More Rodgers. N.Y. ISLANDERS—Signed D. Eric Brewer to 3-year contract, Signed D. Dean Makes, D. David Hortock, D. Mike Gaul and O. Berry

SAN JOSE-Skined II Marcus Roongrason

German Swim Coaches Found Guilty and Fined

By William Drozdiak Washington Post Service

BERLIN - Two former doctors and a swimming coach who confessed to giving anabolic steroids to former East German swimmers were convicted Thursday on charges of inflicting bodily harm and assessed fines worth more than \$20,000.

The verdict was the first to be handed down since German prosecutors opened investigations into reports that communist authorities in the defunct East Germany approved the use of performanceenhancing drugs to build an Olympic sports powerhouse, especially in swimming and track and field events.

Many Eastern German athletes, some as young as 12, were encouraged to take the tiny hlue and pink pills that were disguised as vitamins. The doctors and the coach confessed to administering the steroids, hut insisted that they were unaware of the health consequences.

Same of the 17 female athletes who pressed charges claim to have suffered side effects from taking the drugs, including sterility, excessive hair growth and deeper voices. Neither the athletes nor their parents were informed about the true nature of the pills that were dispensed on a regular basis among East pervised the doping program.

Germany's leading sports clubs.

The Berlin state court ruled that giving the anabolic steroids was sufficient to warrant conviction, even if the defendants were ignorant about the effects. "The trust of young people was abused in East Germany with the state-ordered

doping," said Judge Jurgen Warnatsch.

The defendants could have received sentences up to three years in prison. Instead, the court imposed fines of \$15,000 against Dr. Ulrich Suender, who was in charge of distributing the pills: \$4,000 against former team doctor Dorit Roesler, and \$3,900 against former coach Peter Mattonet. Charges were dropped against two other coaches who were only margin-

pay nearly \$6,000 to charities. The court said it chose to inflict relatively lenient penalties because the defendants had confessed and apologized to the swimmers who were affected by the drugs. Another trial involving coaches and doctors from East Germany's premier Dynamo swim team is still proceeding. German prosecutors say they intend to use the convictions in these cases to

ally involved, hut they were ordered to

hring more serious charges against higher-ranking figures in the communist hierarchy who conceived and su-

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SPORTS

McDowell Back in Form As Angels **Defeat Tigers**

Jack McDowell, returning from a 21/2month absence caused by a sore elbow. pitched seven strong innings as the Angels beat the Detroit Tigers in Anaheim;

McDowell, one of the American League's top pitchers in the early 1990s

AL ROUNDUP

and the winner of the Cy Young award in 1993, flashed some of his old form in gaining only his second victory since May 7, 1997. He left the game Wednesday night after throwing several warm-up pitches in the eighth inning.

'He hadn't pitched in almost three months, but he pitched on guts and savvy," said Terry Collins, the Angels'

McDowell threw 80 pitches, 59 for strikes, to help the Angels maintain their 1½-game lead over Texas in the American League West.
McDowell, on the disabled list twice

this year because of his ailing elbow, reioined the active roster Saturday, but had to zerve a four-day suspension for participating in a June 2 Angels-Royals brawl in Missouri. Darin Erstad, also just off the disabled

list, put Anaheim ahead with a run-scoring single in the third. Reggie Williams singled in the second run in the fifth. Twins 5, Yankees 3 In Minneapolis, Minnesota made it 3-for-3 against Andy

Pettitte this season, getting outstanding relief performances from Dan Serafmi and Mike Trombley. The Twins, who won for just the third time in August, handed the Yankees

their second loss in 14 games. Pettitte (14-7) gave up all five runs on nine hits in eight innings. His earnedrun average against Minnesota this sea-

Athletics 6, White Sox 0 In Oakland, Blake Stein threw a two-hitter for his first major league shntout. Stein allowed only a hunt single by Mike Caruso in the first and a bloop triple by Magglio Ordonez in the second. He struck out three and walked four.

Orioles 6, Devil Rays 4 In Baltimore Mike Bordick hit a three-run homer and Mike Mussina struck out 10 in seven

Mussina (12-6) threw 120 pitches, allowing two rms on nine hits and a walk. Cal Ripken went 3-for-4 to move within one hit of tying Brooks Robinson's fran-chise record of 2,848 career hits.

Red Sox 11, Royals 1 Mike Stanley homered twice and drove in six runs as Boston won in Kansas City. Stanley hit a two-run homer in Bos-

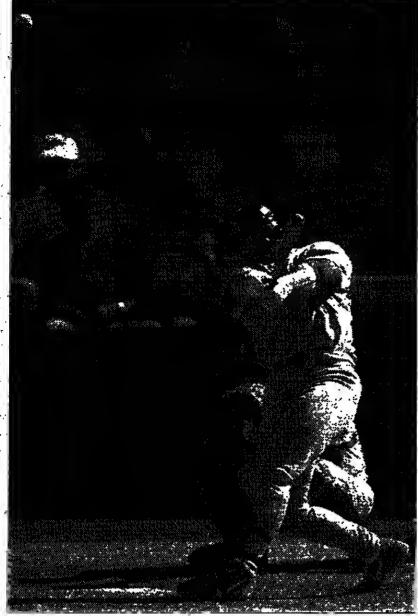
ton's four-run first inning and added a two-run single in its four-run second. Rangers 3, Indians 1 Charles Nagy

gave host Texas the lead with two straight bases-loaded walks during the titree-run sixui u Nagy (10-9) walked Todd Zeile and

Mike Simms for the second and third runs of the inning after Ivan Rodriguez's infield single had tied the game at 1.

Blue Jays 16, Mariners 2 Toronto hit aseason-high seven homers, two each by Shawn Green and Carlos Delgado, and Ken Griffey Jr. went homerless for Scattle. Jose Cruz Jr., Darrin Fletcher and Felipe Crespo also homered for the

visiting Blue Jays.



Mark McGwire belting his 48th homer of the season. He later hit his 49th.

3-Game Sweep Puts Mets One Game Ahead of Cubs

The Associated Press Mike Piazza drove in a key run as the surging New York Mets beat the Col-

The Mets swept the three-game series in New York and won for the 10th time in 13 games. The 2-1 victory Wednesday

NL ROUNDUP

gave the Mets a one-game lead in the National League wild-card race over the

Masato Yoshii allowed one run in 743 innings to earn his first victory since May 27. "Of course I'm happy that I did get a win, personally." he said. "But I'm

more happy that we swept Colorado."
Yoshii (5-6) was winless in his previous 14 starts, with a record of 0-5 during that period. On Wednesday, he allowed nine hits including a leadoff our six. The right-hander also drew a walk and scored New York's first run. In the third, Piazza singled to drive in

Yoshii to tie the game at 1. Pirates 6, Dodgers 5 Los Angeles (62-64) squandered two leads on the way to defeat in Pittsburgh. The Dodgers, who trail the Mets by eight games in the wildcard race, slipped two games under .500 for the first time since June 30.

Rode 8, Brewers 2 Pete Harnisch al-

lowed five hits in 7% innings, and Sean Casey hit a homer and a run-scoring double as Cincinnati won at Milwaukee,

Expos 6, Diamondbacks 2 Dustin Hermanson gave up three hits in seven innings as Felipe Alou broke the record for most wins by a Montreal manager with 521.

Vladimir Guerrero had three runs batted in, two of them with his 30th home run of the season. Chris Widger drove in three with a bases-loaded double.

Marlins 6, Padres n Brian Meadows pitched seven shutout innings as Florida

snapped its five-game losing streak.
With Tony Gwynn and Ken Caminiti
out with injuries, the visiting Padres managed only nine singles off Meadows (10-9). Meadows, 0-3 with an 11.68 earned run average in his previous three starts, walked none and struck out two. Astros 4, Phillies 3 Derek Bell's tworun single with two outs in the ninth

Giants 6, Braves 2 Charlie Hayes hit a two-run single and Mark Gardner pitched six solid innings as San Francisco beat Tom Glavine at Atlanta.

Glavine (16-6) failed to become the first National League pitcher with 17 victories, and his streak of 23 scoreless

innings was snapped in the first. Gardner (10-5) allowed seven hits and walked two without recording a strikeout. Sammy Sosa after hitting his 48th homer, briefly eclipsing Mark McGwire.

McGwire and Sosa Slugging It Out

Power Hitters Trade Leads in Pursuit of Maris's Homer Record

By Ira Berkow New York Times Service

HICAGO - The chase for the home-run record in haseball took a dramatic turn ou a suo-sweet afternoon in Wrigley Field.

Three dramatic turns, to be precise. When Sammy Sosa, the Cubs' gal-vanic outfielder, lined a home run into the left-field hleachers in the fifth inning Wednesday, it was his 48th home run of the season. It put him into the home-run lead of the big leagues, literally and figuratively passing Mark McGwire, the Cardinals first baseman, who appeared impassive as Sosa went into his

The pair has been jockeying at the top for the last couple of months, and came into this two-game series which began Tuesday night tied at 47 homers each. It was the first time since mid-April that McGwire wasn't the top man in home runs. And it moved Sosa one step closer to Roger Maris, who is the holder of the record, having belted 61 homers in

What was McGwire thinking as Sosa cruised by him?

"Nothing much really," he said.
"Just that Sammy's an awesome play-

True or not, McGwire did not remain dormant.

Sosa's home-run lead was shortlived. McGwire gave him and the sell-out crowd of 39,689 a charge when he not only homered in the eighth off Matt Karchner to tie Sosa at 48 homers, but hit it farther, knocking the ball over the bleachers and onto Waveland Avenne.

And he tied up the game at 6 to boot. He wasn't finished. In the 10th inning, he lined a shot off Terry Mul-holland that cleared the wall in center field, 400 feet (122 meters) from home plate, and gave him the homer lead at 49. This also gave the Cardinals the lead in the ball game, one they did not re-

left for the Cards, the drama heightens. In the third inning, Sosa lined a shot to left field that looked like it was a home run to almost everyone in the park, including Sosa, who observed admiringly on his jog to first base. Alas,

VANTAGE POINT

the hall hit about three feet from the top of the wall. John Mahry fielded it, whirled and threw cleanly to second where Sosa, who realized he'd better start running, was out hy so large a margin he didn't even commit a slide.

When Sosa did hit it out of the park, off Kent Bottenfield, he made his second home-run trot of the game.

When Sosa returned to the dugout he was cheered so enthusiastically that he emerged out of the dugout for a curtain call. He waved his cap, then retreated onto the bench where he celebrated by pouring a cup of water over his sweaty

McGwire came to hat in the next inning, exciting the multitude ever more. Could McGwire answer hlow for hlow? The crowd treated McGwire to a loud hut mixed hag of cheers, hoos and whistles.

The Cardinals had loaded the hases with two outs, and were behind 6-2. Riggleman replaced his starter, Clark, with the right-handed reliever Terry Adams. When Adams got a called strike on McGwire, the fans cheered. But a passed hall allowed in a run, sent runners to second and third and left first base open, with a 2-2 count. Adams walked McGwire, which was sensible under the circumstances. The boos cascaded from the stands.

When McGwire was walked on a 3-2 pitch in the fifth inning, boos rang from some precincts of Wrigley Field. Fans

linquish. McGwire and Sosa have matched homer for homer for several mooths now. With 36 games left on the Cubs' regular-season schedule, and 38 want to see the march to history, and feel deprived when the slugger is not permitted to swing — sluggers, actually, because wheo Sosa and Ken Griffey Jr., the other contenders for the record, are walked in enemy ballparks, the hometeam pitchers are routinely being

Rich Croushore got the same medi-cine when he walked Sosa in the seventh

What did McGwire and Sosa talk about on first base? "We talked about

building a golf course together," McG-wire said with a smile. Sosa is equally cov about what the

homer record means to him. 'Our team is in the middle of a pennant race," said Sosa. "If we won and I didn't hit a home run I would be more satisfied than I am now."

And what was Sosa thinking in right field when McGwire passed him with

his 49th home run.

"I'm thinking, 'He's the man,' "said Sosa, who has been saying for months that he is rooting for McGwire to break the record.

The game itself was a thrilling one, with the Cubs loading the bases in the bottom of the 10th, before Manny Alexander popped to second base to end the game and give the Cardinals an 8-6

triumph. It should be noted that home runs were also hit in the game by four other players, Henry Rodriguez and Jose Hernandez of the Cuhs, and Delino DeShields and Ray Lankford of the Cards. Bnt no one's paying much attention to that.

46, 47, 48, 49: Others Join Countdown

MINNEAPOLIS - The New York Yankees were spread all over their cluhhouse here Wednesday night, some playing cards, some charting. But when Mark McGwire hatted in the 10th inning in Chicago, as his St. Louis Cardinals faced the Cubs, many of the Yankees gathered in front of the television mounted high on a wall to watch the slugger hat, as rapt in their attention

as any fan at Wrigley Field.

He's got 48 now, said Darryl Strawberry, straining to see from his seat. "If he gets two more be-fore the end of the month, he'll get it' — Roger Maris's record of 61 home runs in a season.

Before Terry Mulholland threw his first pitch to McGwire, Strawberry yelled aloud to his team-mates. Hey look he's right on the dish," referring to McGwire's pen-chant for standing close to the

Someone mentioned that the best way to pitch to McGwire was with

Then Mulholland threw a ball over the middle of the plate, and when McGwire swung his big bat and made contact, some Yankees yelled in unison, "Ooh!"

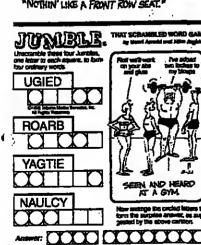
Strawberry said, "No. 49, Big Mac. laughing, as McGwire circled the bases.

And the Yankees quickly dispersed.

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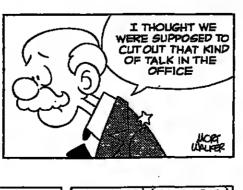
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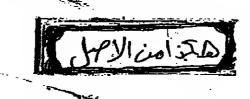


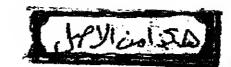
ANYSIDE

EFFECTS?









POSTCARD

But Is It Lincoln?

By Judith H. Dobrzynski New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Ever since the small, leather-encased oval daguerreotype of someone who looks like a young Abraham Lincoln surfaced a few years ago, experts have been arguing about it. If the picture, made around 1843, is of the 16th president, it would be Lincoln's first likeness, predating a daguerreotype in the Library of Congress that was made between 1846 and 1849. It would be a major historical

The image in question, known as the Hay Wadsworth daguerreotype, has thus faced all kinds of scrutiny: by a forensic anthropologist, a criminal identification specialist, a photographer who "aged" the image by computer and two medical experts who analyzed the vein pattern in the subject's hand. Most of them think it is Lincoln.

But skeptics persist, led by the doubter in chief, Lloyd Ostendorf, 77, of Akron.
Ohio, the surviving co-author of "Lincoln in Photographs" (Momingside Press, 1985).

I have no questions about what that is, and it's not Lincoln," he said, reeling off a dozen physical characterisiics, from the big, sharp nose

daguerreotype of Lincoln, it could fetch \$1 million.

If it is the first

to the too-small ears, that do not match Lincoln's.

Now the market will decide. The owners, Robert and Joan Hoffman of Pinsford, New York, have consigned the daguerreotype to Christie's, which is to auction it on Oct. 6.
"This is a very during move," said Harold Holzer, the author of 12 books on Lincoln and the Civil War and also chief spokesman for the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The stakes are high. If it is the first daguerreotype of Lincoln, it could fetch \$1 million, Lincoln scholars estimated.

And if it is not? "It's worth \$5 or \$6 on the antique photograph market, maybe \$50 at tops," Ostendorf said.

Christie's, while hullish, is not pushing too hard. In the

catalog, it will describe the work as "Portrait of a Gentleman, Believed to Be Abraham Lincoln, Aged 34." The estimate is \$200,000 to \$300,000. In comparison, the record auction price for a Lincoln memento of any sort is \$1.54 million, set in 1992, for an 1857 draft of his "house divided" speech opposing slavery. The record for a daguerreotype is \$189,000, set in 1995, for "The Capitol Building" by John Plurah, circa 1846.
"Idon't think I can add this to the gallery of Abraham Lincoln

images carte hlanche." said Rick Wester, director of Chrisne's photography department. 'Christie's needs to be realisme about it and say there is a possibility that it is not Lincoln."

Caveat emptor, in other words. Auctioneers frequently sell items they cannot identify precisely, of course. Chrisoe's and Sotheby's do not guarantee anything made before 1870, and they often label Old Master paintings as "circle of" or "school of particular artists, for example. Sometimes, buyers do more research and the attribution may change to a more highly valued artist — or to a less respected one.

The Hoffmans — he is an anoques dealer and she an

Skeptics persist. but the market will decide at Christie's sale on Oct. 6.

educator at the Strong Museum in Rochester, New York - refuse to disclose what they paid for their treasure, but they knew they had to make a case for it. If the Hay Wadsworth im-

age is Lincoln, it depicts him as a beardless member of the Illinois State Legislature, 17 years before he was elected president and before his new wife. Mary Todd Lincoln, a socially prominent banker's daughter, spruced him up. But the public knows Lincoln as he is depicted on the \$5 hill, on the penny and in his majestic marble memorial in Washington, always with the beard he grew after he was elected president. Many people would no doubt have a hard time reconciling the difference.

"I'm always surprised that people think people will age the way they do in movies." said Holzer. "But faces really change — noses droop, things sag, a lot can happen." He added that the Library of Congress's daguerreotype was originally doubted, too, requiring Lincoln's son Robert to authenticate it three times. Still, Holzer is not entirely convinced. "I think the possibility exists that it could be Lincoln" is his most forceful verdict after reviewing the supporting evidence and writing two articles about it.

In pursuing the consignment. Christie's relied most heavily on the work of Lewis Sadler, the head of the Biomedical Visualization Laboratory at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Sadler developed an identification process that feeds mathematical "facial maps" into a computer model and sifts the data for matches. To test the daguerreotype, he mapped it and three other Lincoln images and mixed them with 300 other facial maps of white males. He got three matches - with the three other Lincoln portraits.

Great French Illusionist Unveiled in a Magic House

By Barry James International Herald Tribune

from the public purse.

But if you are interested in legerdemain, prestidigitation, illusion or the story of a remarkable 19thcentury showman and savant called Jean-Eugene Robert-Houdin, you might consider the 67 million francs (\$11 million) of taxpayers' money that was poured into an ambitious house of the magic arts here to have been well speni.

Robert-Houdin, a native of Blois and the museum's muse, was the first of the great illusionist enter-tainers. Another magician, called Erich Weiss, admired him so much that he borrowed his name with the result that many people confuse Robert-Houdin with the great escaper, Harry Houdini.

Before Robert-Houdin, magic had a dubious reputation. The Inquisition repressed it, and practi-Ooners were rightly considered a duhious hunch of mountehanks, charlatans and quacks, or, as in the case of Nostradamus, sorcerers with supernatural powers.

Robert-Houdin changed all that. In 1845, he created his own theater where for the next 75 years the "Soirees Fantastiques" devised by him and continued by successors delighted and astonished generaoons of Parisians.

As master of ceremonies, Robert-Houdin, always elegant, witty and charming, received his audience as though they were guests in a refined salon. At his command, showers of coins appeared as if from nowhere, wallets constructing uncannily lifelike disappeared from one person's automatons and a glass clock that pocket to appear in another's, ran with no apparent mechanism. flowers appeared to grow from seed, an ostensibly unlimited quanory of wine flowed from a bonle and an endless stream of objects appeared from a comucopia that everyone had thought empty.

He convinced audiences that he nonchalantly maintain four balls

could make a person - one of his sons - levitate with no means of support. And blindfolded, another BLOIS, France — As a former son could accurately identify any minister of culture, the mayor object produced by a member of the of Blois, Jack Lang, knows a thing nudience, or even objects in anor two about conjuring subsidies other room. "Second sight," as Robert-Houdin called it, was actually the product of prodigious memory and erudition.

Robert-Houdin took his show to England and was equally popular there as "the French conjurer.

He never claimed supernatural powers. But in a candlelit age, he had an understanding of electricity, galvanism and magnetism that his audiences lacked; and could perform tricks that at the time seemed

literally marvelous.
In fact, the French government sent him as ambassador to Algeria to combat a revolt whose leaders claimed powers of invincibility. Robert-Houdin's task was to show that French magic was greater than that of the rebels. He accepted a rebel's challenge to prove that he was invincible against hullets. The man fired a revolver from a few paces, and Robert-Houdin produced the hullet from between his teeth. The magician fired the next shot against a wall, and blood ran down the surface.

The revolt leaders lost face with their followers and conceded defeat. The government credited Robert-Houdin with single-handedly putung down the rebellion, but when it offered to pay him 10,000 francs in gratitude, he refused, saying he would not accept money for performing a service for his country.

Robert-Houdin began by following in his father's steps as a watchmaker. He was a mechanical genius who amazed his contemporaries hy

He fell for magic when a bookseller mistakenly sold him a book before he handed his magician's on conjuring rather than the treatise wand to his chosen successor, on conjuring rather than the treatise on watchmaking he had intended to Pierre Chocat, who married Robertbuy. To develop dexterity, he Houdin's sister and became famous taught himself to juggle and could under the stage name of Hamilton.



Recalling Robert-Houdin's automatons, a bydra-headed dragon pokes its heads out of the Blois museum's windows on the hour.

in the air while reading a book. theater, and already well-known as maker of automatons. His theatrical career lasted only a decade,

made enough money to huy a man-He was 40 when he opened his sion near Blois and retire to a life of

study, invention and writing.
A friend told him that the public knew him as an entertainer and would therefore never take him entirely seriously as a scientist. The observation was probably true, but Robert-Houdin was nonetheless a ander the stage name of Hamilton. remarkable man of science. He studied the human eye and developed

the four main instruments still found in every ophthalmologist's office. For the army, he invented a device for measuring the distance traveled by a vehicle, which later became the taxi meter. He corresponded on equal terms with the likes of the physicist Leon Foucault. He turned his house. Le Prieur,

into a legendary showcase of technology and electricity. He developed filament hulbs so that guests could dine under electric lighting. Electric bells informed him of the arrival of mail or vis-itors. He even utilized the to and fro of the servants to create the energy to power the many clocks in the house. He wrote several books, the house. He wrote several books, the best known of which was his autobiography, "Confidences d'un Prestidigitateur," or Confessions of a Conjurer, in which he explained how he performed several of his feats, including the trick of the hullets that so amazed the Alserian rebals. He left a huge colgerian rebels. He left a huge col-lection of writings and diagrams. The House of Magic here, which

has been open since June, is both entertaining and educational. In keeping with its status as one of the grands travaux or great public works projects of the Mitterrand era, the institution will house a national academy of the magic arts later this year.

The museum piques the interest with interactive illusions and professional magic acts, while observing the magician's omerta - tricks must not be revealed! Upstairs, visitors can see Robert-Houdin's scientific instruments, try to figure out the working of his glass clocks without visible mechanisms and admire many of his automatons.

Speaking of which, the entire facade of the museum, a converted 19th-century mansion, has been turned into an automaton that does Robert-Houdin's memory prond. On the hour, the windows slide open and a roaring, hydra-headed dragon pokes out its six snouts, crashing down the railings with huge clawed feet and waving its tail from a casement in the roof.



SHOWTIME - Leslie Nielsen and his wife, Barbaree, attending the premiere of "Wrongfully Accused."

Athe 13th-century Pope Celestine V was murdered, an Italian monk now idence that someone drove a nail into the Day," was a consultant on Spielberg's pontiff's skull. Several Italian dailies new movie "Saving Private Ryan." quoted the Reverend Quirino Salomone as saying that a scan performed on Celestine's mummified remains 10 left temple. None of the accounts explained who ordered the test or why the results were not revealed for a decade. Salomone said he is writing a book hased on "scientific and photographic material" hacking his thesis. "I hope to clarify for good the mystery of the Pope's all from New Jersey, could each face up death," he said.

Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg have made hig donations to a D-Day museum scheduled to open in New Orleans in two years. The museum's founder, the historian and author Stephber, the private Nova television station in en Ambrose, did not disclose the exact Prague reported. The director, who amounts but said the donations are for moved to the United States in 1968, is still

FTER centuries of speculation that The money will help the trusseum open on the 13th-century Pope Celestine V its target date of June 6, 2000—the 56th and Matej, who are both actors. anniversary of the Normandy invasion. claims he has proof, saying there is ev- Ambrose, who wrote the best-seller "D-

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organizers were charged with rigging the contest. In a statement released before pageant officials were expected to vote on whether to dethrone her. Rhonda Lewan said she didn't know about the scheme. If convicted, the four organizers,

to 19 years in prison and a \$40,000 fine.

. The Czech-born film director Milos Forman, 65, will soon become a father again: His girlfriend, Martina Zborilova, is expecting twin boys in Septem-

A Boston teacher has successfully swum across the English Channel for the sixth time — just two weeks after he called off a crossing 10 hours into the on Celestine's mummified remains 10 Mrs. Pennsylvania of 1998 has given swim. "I guess God was on my side," years ago showed a half-inch hole in the up her crown, one day after four pageant said Peter Jurzynski, 47. "I was a little burnt out because of the earlier swim." It took Jurzyuski 16 hours and 16 minutes to complete the crossing, more than four hours longer than his best time of 12 hours and seven minutes. He made that time in his first outing in 1987, when he was 36. "I really do it for the fitness," said Jurzynski, who hopes eventually to beat the American record for swims across the channel.

The country music star Garth Brooks will stage his first show in South America on Saturday. The concert, in Barretos, Brazil, coincides with the Rodeo Barretos, a 10-day event that is expected. hundreds of thousands of dollars each. married to the former actress Vera to draw as many as 1.5 million visitors.



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